

JPRS 79275

22 October 1981

# Latin America Report

No. 2388



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

#### NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

#### PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

22 October 1981

## LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2388

## CONTENTS

## ENERGY ECONOMICS

## BAHAMAS

## Briefs

- Oil Search Resumption 1

## BARBADOS

## Briefs

- IDB Wind Energy Grant 2

## GUYANA

- Second Phase in Oil Search Scheduled for November  
(GUYANA CHRONICLE, 8 Sep 81)..... 3

## HONDURAS

- Oil Crisis: Even Reserves Are Exhausted  
(LA PRENSA, 4 Sep 81)..... 4

## JAMAICA

- JPS Diesel Generators Will Cut Oil Consumption 60 Percent  
(THE DAILY GLEANER, 17 Sep 81)..... 5
- Talks on With Sweden for Area's First Ocean Thermal Plant  
(THE DAILY GLEANER, 26 Sep 81)..... 7
- Offshore Oil Exploration Contract Signed With Italians  
(THE DAILY GLEANER, 28 Sep 81)..... 9

## ST. LUCIA

- Saudi Arabia Backs Oil Project, Local Development Bank  
(THE VOICE, 12 Aug 81)..... 11

## COUNTRY SECTION

### INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Caribbean Press Council Concerned About Grenada Situation (ADVOCATE NEWS, 19 Sep 81, SUNDAY ADVOCATE NEWS, 20 Sep 81).....	12
Fraser, Ryan Statement Grenada Rejoinder	
Sandinists Accused of Landing on Honduran Island (LA PRENSA, 1 Sep 81).....	14
Guyana's Attitude in Territorial Dispute With Venezuela Criticized (Rafael Sureda Delgado; EL DIARIO DE CARACAS, 21 Sep 81).....	15
Guyana Protests Credit Blockade by Venezuela in World Bank (EL UNIVERSAL, 28 Sep 81).....	17
Text of Caldera's Conversation With Fidel Castro (Alfredo Pena; EL NACIONAL, 26 Sep 81).....	19
Briefs Concessions to Bolivia, Ecuador	22

### ANTIGUA

Bird Statement to Barbuda Council on Independence Issue (Lester B. Bird; THE WORKERS VOICE, 1 Jul 81).....	23
Briefs UK Grant	26

### BARBADOS

Editorial Sets Forth Position on Grenada, U.S. Policy (Editorial; CARIBBEAN CONTACT, Aug 81).....	27
Briefs Tightened Credit	30
Import Control Measures	30
Wage Restraint Opposition	31

### BERMUDA

Viera Resigns as Whip, Undercuts Gibbons' Authority (THE ROYAL GAZETTE, 15 Sep 81).....	32
Briefs Cabinet Changes	33



## DOMINICA

Briefs	
Ties With Vatican	34

## EL SALVADOR

Briefs	
Loan to CEPA	35

## GRENADA

Bishop: Economic Recession in West Affects Our Economy (ADVOCATE-NEWS, 11 Sep 81).....	36
Commission Established To Oversee Land Development Law (THE SUNDAY GLEANER, 20 Sep 81).....	37
Initial Dredging Phase in Airport Construction Completed (SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS, 20 Sep 81).....	39
Briefs	
EEC Grant for Airport	40

## GUATEMALA

Deputy Says: 'We Were Naive With Regard to Belize' (PRENSA LIBRE, 19 Jun 81).....	41
--	----

## GUYANA

PPP Central Committee Meets, Issues Statement on PNC (MIRROR, 6 Sep 81).....	42
Christopher Jones New Envoy to Suriname; Chan Honored (GUYANA CHRONICLE, 16 Sep 81).....	43
Decoration in Paramaribo Jones Assignment	
WPA Calls for Outside Probe of Human Rights Violations (SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS, 20 Sep 81).....	45
Saboteurs Blamed for Canefield Fires Over 100 Acres (GUYANA CHRONICLE, 8 Sep 81).....	46
Briefs	
Police Detentions	47
Kim Il Sung Greetings	47
1980 Trade Deficit	47
New Secretaries	48

PPP Defection	48
Message to DPRK	48
Message to Brazil	49
Coastal Mapping	49
Aid From Canada	50
PNC Message to Ethiopia	50
Message to Mexico	50
Police Find	51

#### HONDURAS

Arturo Rendon Comments on Lack of Unity in Liberal Party (LA PRENSA, 11 Sep 81).....	52
Acquisition of Oil Refinery Not Advisable (Mirta Torres de Mejia; LA PRENSA, 16 Sep 81).....	53
Briefs	
Army Country's Main Support	55
Nicaraguan Violations of Territorial Waters	55

#### JAMAICA

Editorial Assesses Venezuelan Aid, Caribbean Basin Plan (Editorial; THE DAILY GLEANER, 17 Sep 81).....	56
Seaga Promises Shake-up of Three Government Departments (THE DAILY GLEANER, 19, 26 Sep 81).....	58
Dissatisfaction With Performance	
Initial Personnel Actions	
Minister Warns 'Big Man' on Selfishness, Exploitation (ADVOCATE-NEWS, 21 Sep 81).....	60
Developments in Imports, Exports Subject of Attention (THE DAILY GLEANER, 18 Sep 81).....	61
Shearer Report to JMA	
Export Development Fund	
Raw Materials Imports	
Briefs	
Haitian Mission	65
Sugar Losses	65
Union Work for Manley	65
Venezuelan Visas	66
Minerals for Venezuela	66

## NICARAGUA

Mexican Reporter Denounces 'LA PRENSA'	
(EL NUEVO DIARIO, 26 Aug 81).....	67

### Briefs

USSR Donates Vehicles	69
-----------------------	----

## ST. KITTS-NEVIS

Text of Communique on Simmonds' Visit to Colombia	
(THE DEMOCRAT, 15 Aug 81).....	70

Spread of Communism Threatens; Labor Called Subversive	
(THE DEMOCRAT, 15 Aug 81).....	73

## ST. LUCIA

Editorial Finds Region's Ideological Pluralism Eroding	
(Editorial; THE VOICE, 26 Aug 81).....	74

Cenac Unable To Control Conflicting Josie Policy Remarks	
(Willie James; THE WEEKEND VOICE, 5 Sep 81).....	76

### Briefs

UK Aid	77
New 'Peace Committee'	77

## ST. VINCENT

UPM Attacks ' Militia' Unit as Vigilante Force	
(THE VINCENTIAN, 14, 21 Aug 81).....	78

Gonsalves Press Conference  
Editorial Opposition

Editorial Evaluates Tannis Story of Coup Attempt	
(Editorial; THE VINCENTIAN, 14 Aug 81).....	81

UPM Holds First Congress Since Its Inception 2 Years Ago	
(Ted Roberts; THE VINCENTIAN, 28 Aug 81).....	82

### Briefs

Relations With Taiwan	83
-----------------------	----

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Editorial Calls for Caribbean Summit Following Elections	
(Editorial; TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 2 Sep 81).....	84

Correspondent Describes Nation's Pre-Election Atmosphere (CARIBBEAN CONTACT, Sep 81).....	86
Briefs	
Loan to Caroni	87
Mahabir on Political Aims	87
VENEZUELA	
Lusinchí Discusses AD Presidential Election (EL NACIONAL, 21 Sep 81).....	88
AD Leader Interviewed on Party's Potential Candidates (Jose Angel Ciliberto Interview; EL NACIONAL, 21 Sep 81).....	90

## BRIEFS

OIL SEARCH RESUMPTION--Nassau, Bahamas, Thursday (CANA)--Oil exploration in the Bahamas will resume within a few days, President of Chevron Oil Bahamas, D. W. Callahan said yesterday. The announcement followed the grant of a permit to the company by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Ministry officials here have expressed 'guarded optimism' about the possibility of discovering oil in the Archipelago. A previous survey has indicated reserves of natural gas in the Blake plateau in the Northern Bahamas. Other preliminary surveys have hinted of a possibility of finding oil since the geological conditions in some areas are considered appropriate. Chevron's exploration represents the second time in 1981 that a major geophysical survey has been conducted within the Bahamas. Earlier this year, the Texas-based Geophysical Services Incorporated, acting on behalf of five major oil companies, carried out a 4,000 kilometre seismic survey of the Western Bahamas from Cay Sal in the South to Grand Bahama in the North. That survey Fort Getty, British petroleum, Shell and Arco was completed by mid-June but to date, the government has not disclosed any information in connection with its outcome. However, Economic Affairs Ministry officials said that other companies had applied for exploration permits, including Breco Limited, a company incorporated here. They added that three permits were granted, but did not give their names. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 18 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/09



## BRIEFS

IDB WIND ENERGY GRANT--Bridgetown, Barbados--A technical co-operation agreement, under which the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will provide most of 1.5 million dollars (US) for a wind energy programme in Barbados, has been approved by the Bank, authoritative sources said today. The IDB is expected to provide about 1.4 million dollars (US) of the money required to set up a 200 megawatt wind turbine here aimed at eventually saving the country millions of dollars in foreign exchange spent on imported fuel for domestic electricity generation. Stephen Manning, manager of the Wind and Solar Energy Project being co-ordinated by the Caribbean Meteorological Institute (CMI) in the eastern Caribbean, said Barbados could produce 25 per cent of its electricity requirements towards the end of the decade from wind energy. (CANA) [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Sep 81 p 13]

CSO: 3025/09

## SECOND PHASE IN OIL SEARCH SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 8 Sep 81 p 9

[Text]

THE second phase in the search for oil in the Takutu Basin of the Rupununi region is expected to continue in November according to Dr. Waldron, Deputy Commissioner, Geological Surveys and Mines.

This phase, involves drilling operations, undertaken by the Canadian Home Oil Company in co-operation with Norcen International Limited and Sabra Petroleum Limited, also of Canada.

Dr. Waldron said that the oil rig will be imported from the Middle East and will reach the Guyana interior by way of the Amazon River.

The Home Oil Company is among the first to have approached the Guyana Government on the subject of oil exploration.

Following some months of seismic work, the Government and officials of Home Oil have been encouraged to continue exploration.

Dr. Waldron confirmed that a contract had been signed between the two parties in which Home Oil

has been given exploration rights over 7 976 Sq Kilometres of land in the interior.

The discovery of oil in economic quantities will help the economy a great deal, since the country is faced with an oil bill of some \$420 million. One Government official observed.

It is felt that there are vast and heavy oil deposits in the Orinoco basin. Prospecting in Belize has shown similar evidence of rich oil reserves which could be more extensive than those in Mexico and Trinidad.

CSO: 3025/08

## OIL CRISIS: EVEN RESERVES ARE EXHAUSTED

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Sep 81 p 2

[Text] Tegucigalpa--Gasoline tank trucks from the Texaco Refinery of Puerto Cortes started to make deliveries yesterday at several filling stations in the capital, and it is hoped that the serious gasoline crisis which is being experienced in Tegucigalpa will thus be partially relieved.

When some of the managers of the gasoline companies were asked they said that if the rationing of gasoline is not decreed during the next week the consequences for the consumers will be great.

Gilberto Morazan, manager of the DIPPSA [Petroleum Products Distributor] gasoline company of Tegucigalpa, stated that he "hopes that the problem will become normal within the next few days since the demand has increased. Since gasoline is scarce the citizens' needs cannot be met, to the point that sales to clients are made only to prevent the breakdown of business."

He stated that they will only sell filling stations 500 gallons a day but yesterday they did not receive the 200 gallons of kerosene so sales are continually limited.

He said that the distributing company had promised them that it would supply them starting tomorrow but that he cannot guarantee that it will keep its promise.

Jose Reyes described the supply of fuel as skimpy since last week he only received 40 percent of the normal requirement. He explained that the volume of sales has decreased due to the fact that they have received no gasoline and that they have sent only 4,000 gallons of kerosene during the last 10 days. "The reserves are exhausted and we cannot keep the filling stations open if the distributor does not supply us," he concluded.

9204

CSO: 3010/1855

## JPS DIESEL GENERATORS WILL CUT OIL CONSUMPTION 60 PERCENT

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Sep 81 pp 1, 15

[Text] The Jamaica Public Service Company is planning to acquire modern slow speed diesel generating units to replace most of the outdated Hunts Bay A Units, Public Utilities and Transport Minister Alva Ross said in the House of Representatives yesterday.

Mr. Ross said that it was projected that the introduction of the slow speed units will reduce oil consumption by over 60 percent, and the consequent saving in oil costs would not only be sufficient to pay for the new units, but would leave a substantial amount that will help to reduce the cost of electricity to consumers.

"It is not expected, however, that these units can be ordered, installed and be ready for operation before 1984. On the basis of the experience with these units, a decision will be taken in regard to the replacement of the Old Harbour and other units," the Minister said.

Mr. Ross was making his contribution to the first sectoral debate on the Government's policies and performance.

Funds for the diesel units are expected to be provided by the suppliers (not yet decided), Mr. Ross said, or by lines of credit provided by creditor countries.

The rest of the capital development--the rehabilitation of the generating plants, the improvements to transmission and distribution lines--will be financed mostly by the World Bank, under a Third Power projects which will provide funds totalling about \$110 million over the period of 1982/86.

He said that in accepting the World Bank loans, the country should be aware that certain conditions have to be satisfied.

"As I have indicated one of these conditions is the return on the value of its assets. Until the J.P.S. can maintain a higher level of efficiency in its operations, the price for electricity will be somewhat high. We just have to face that fact."

The alternative to that would be either: the company being reduced as a result of the lack of finances to a stage where it would be unable to provide the power

requirements of the country, or, the shortfall in revenue would have to be met by taxpayers.

"I do not support either of these alternatives," the Minister said. "My policy, therefore, is for the company to proceed with the necessary capital and operational improvements and to be in a position to provide by 1984 an efficient service to the country."

He said that the company was currently losing about 21 percent of its generated current as against a normal loss rate of 11 percent, and a large proportion of the 10 percent loss was due to dishonest practices.

"It is not only the small man that is stealing current," Mr. Ross said. "Many big men are also doing the same thing--tampering with meters and so on. I must give a clear warning that I view such practices with the greatest seriousness. This must stop. Anyone found stealing current will be dealt with to the fullest extent of the law."

#### Urgency

"I have directed the J.P.S. to work out and submit to me as a matter of urgency a programme to put an effective stop to these practices. When the dishonest steal, it is the honest ones who have to pay," the Minister said.

In regard to the proposed improvements to the plant and equipment, he said that it was expected that the Old Harbour Units will be rehabilitated and that the excess loss of power will be eliminated and that by 1984 the slow speed diesel should be in operation.

Mr. Ross said that the company was facing a very serious financial crisis, which could mean increases in electricity rates. The Government, however, has decided to "cushion the shock" by providing an increased contribution to the company of about \$14 1/2 million in 1981 as equity, and possibly a further \$7 million in 1982.

Since 1979 the company has been incurring heavy losses--\$3.5 million in 1979; \$23.4 million in 1980 and a projected \$32.69 million in 1981. At present over \$50 million was outstanding on electricity bills representing roughly 70 days collection.

Mr. Ross said that the series of losses and the high level of outstanding bills naturally affected the working capital position of the company, with the most serious implication being the extent to which external relationship with its principal lenders, the World Bank, could be affected.

The company had signed an agreement with the Bank in 1973 under which it borrowed U.S. \$20 million, as part of a J\$200 million five-year programme to carry out capital works involving transmission and distribution and one of the conditions of the agreement was that the company should make 8 percent to 8 1/2 percent based on the replacement of cost of its assets.

What was happening was an increasing proportion of the Company's revenues has been going into payments for fuel, leaving too small a proportion to meet operating, administrative and other expenses, Mr. Ross said.



## TALKS ON WITH SWEDEN FOR AREA'S FIRST OCEAN THERMAL PLANT

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 26 Sep 81 p 15

[Text] Government is now holding talks with Swedish energy authorities with a view to establishing the first Ocean Thermal Exchange Conversion (OTEC) plant in the region.

This announcement was made by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, on Tuesday when he spoke at the dedication ceremony for the largest solar water heating system in the Caribbean, at the Cornwall Regional Hospital.

An API report quoted the Prime Minister as saying that the OTEC plant would be a demonstration unit and that, following its installation, Jamaica would be able to determine the further needs that that particular source of renewable power might be put to in generating new sources of energy.

Explaining how the principle of OTEC could be used to generate electricity, the Prime Minister said that it involves using the differences in temperature in the sea in areas where the shelf falls off to deep levels close to the shoreline, and he described this as "one of the bright hopes for the future in generating new types of renewable power."

Mr. Seaga re-emphasised the need for developing countries to find alternative sources of energy, and said that various experimental demonstration projects were to be established in Jamaica. He also mentioned the establishment of photo voltaic cells which convert sunshine directly into electric current. He added, however, that the photo voltaic system was expensive, but that it was expected that with the development of new processes, by 1985 it would be a cost effective system.

"Solar ponds--the conversion of saline ponds with the intensity of solar radiation into electricity" the Prime Minister continued, "will be the subject of an Israeli project which is to commence soon at Yallahs and is another area of experimental and demonstration work."

Mr. Seaga appealed to the more developed countries to give their technological support to the alternative sources of energy which could be utilised by rural dwellers in the poorer nations.

He said that, by far, the greater population of the world were the rural poor, and the "absolute poor," who would never see one form of electricity or another. The only hope that those people would have of deriving power to assist them in their daily domestic needs Mr. Seaga said, was if rural technology was advanced to a stage where power could be derived from rural sources such as the sun, wind, burning of various types of rural products, vegetable matter, animal dung and trees.

The Prime Minister re-iterated a plea he made at the recent energy conference in Nairobi, Kenya, for the setting up of an international exhibition centre, where he said, the alternative energy sources of both the developed and developing countries could be exhibited.

CSO: 3025/08

## OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION CONTRACT SIGNED WITH ITALIANS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

A contract for oil and gas exploration and exploitation in Block B in the offshore Pedro Bank area was signed on Friday between the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (Petrojam) and Union Texas Petroleum Corporation and Agip, the Italian state-owned oil corporation.

Two other agreements were also signed. They are a joint operating agreement between Union Texas and Agip in which Petrojam will participate as a 30% partner when a commercial discovery is made, and a memorandum of understanding between the contracting parties and the Government of Jamaica. The aim of this agreement is to encourage and promote the exploration for and development of Jamaica's petroleum resources.

**THE SIGNING CEREMONY.** took place at Jamaica House. Prime Minister Edward Seaga signed the memorandum on behalf of Jamaica while the oil contract was signed by Mr. Headley Bryce, secretary of Petrojam and Mr. William Saunders, managing director of Petrojam. Mr. John Cox, Union Texas vice-president for international exploration, signed for his company and Mr. Jeancarlo Baldamarri, executive vice-president of Agip, signed on behalf of his company.

Mr. Saunders said at the signing that this contract was a major step in offshore oil exploration in Jamaica and resulted from a continued interest shown by the contracting parties in conducting oil exploration activities in Jamaica.

**GIVING DETAILS** of the contract, Mr. Saunders said that in the event of a commercial discovery, the Government of Jamaica would receive 12½% of the net production of royalties in addition

to the income taxes paid by the consortium and Petrojam.

The contracting parties would be allowed to recover their investment and operating costs and the balance of the production would be shared between Petrojam and the contractors according to a prescribed rate set out in the contract. He said that an annual rental for the area would be paid by the consortiums and for a production average of 50,000 barrels a day for 120 consecutive days, a bonus of \$2 million would be paid to Petrojam. According to Mr. Saunders, one well must be drilled in each of the fifth and sixth year of the contract which terminates at the end of the sixth year unless a commercial discovery is made.

The consortium will donate US\$50,000 annually for the training of Jamaicans in various aspects of the petroleum industry. In addition, Jamaican nationals will be given assistance in learning to conduct petroleum operations and if a commercial discovery is made a full on-the-job training programme will be implemented.

The contract would enable Jamaicans to achieve maximum benefit from any petroleum production that takes place in Block B.

### BACKGROUND

**PRIME MINISTER SEAGA** in giving background to the signing said that the consortiums had signed an agreement in May last year to explore one of the blocks designated in the Pedro Banks area. However they later indicated that one of the areas they wished to explore was situated at the boundaries of another block and therefore wished to secure operations in that

block so that in the event they were successful they would not lose the benefits.

The memorandum of understanding which he signed was to agree on the terms under which the consortiums would be allowed to carry out explorations in the second block.

The main difference between the two agreements he said, was in the carried interest provision which had been increased to 30%. Mr. Seaga said that in the original agreement Petrojam had a carried interest of 10% which allowed them in the event of a find to take up a 10% equity. The agreement also provided that if there was no find it would not cost them anything in respect of the 10% equity. In the new agreement the carried interest had been increased to 30% so that in the event of a find Petrojam would be able to take up a 30% equity interest.

He expressed pleasure in signing another agreement with the consortiums and said it indicated their confidence in the explorations they were about to undertake as well as their confidence in the investment climate in Jamaica. He said that explorations should begin at an early date.

The Prime Minister also mentioned that on-shore oil explorations in the Savanna-la-Mar region of Westmoreland would begin in the first week of November.

Mr. Cox said that his company had 36 on-going oil exploration activities taking place in 26 countries.

CSO: 3025/08

## SAUDI ARABIA BACKS OIL PROJECT, LOCAL DEVELOPMENT BANK

Castries THE VOICE in English 12 Aug 81 p 1

[Text]

ST. LUCIA is to be the site for a regional bank, predominantly controlled by Saudi Arabian interests who plan to set up an oil project on the island.

The St. Lucia-Saudi National Development Bank, as it will be known, will be mainly designed to recycle petrodollars from the oil-rich Middle East state into the Eastern Caribbean in the form of development aid.

According to the London-based publication, INSIGHT, a monthly newsletter of the West India Committee, the bank will be located in St. Lucia if the proposed oil terminal goes through.

Trade Minister Peter Josie told newsmen last Friday that work on the oil project — which will involve oil blending, storage and transshipment — is expected to begin towards the end of the year.

Negotiations for the bank were completed by former Prime Minister Allan Louisy who went to France in May to

sign the agreement for the project. Further agreements relating to the petro bank project are expected to be signed in October.

INSIGHT said it had learnt that the islands of the Eastern Caribbean would be invited to take shares in the bank.

It said that those concerned with establishing the project in St. Lucia envisaged that the bank would turn the island into a major financial centre for the region. It was also expected to offset what certain regional governments saw as the tardy disbursement of funds by the Caribbean Development Bank, the newsletter said.

INSIGHT said it understood that royalty payments from the terminal to the St. Lucia Government would be in the form of oil, amounting to as much as 15

percent of the facility's throughput. This would be refined locally to offset a significant part of the island's current need for imported oil.

It added that sources had revealed that the storage and transshipment facility would be built at a cost of US\$200 million and construction, probably by a Swedish firm would begin in September.

According to INSIGHT, diplomatic sources in the Caribbean have been suggesting that there were two main reasons for the project: (a) that Saudi Arabia needed to disperse its oil storage away from the politically and militarily volatile Gulf region, and (b) that the Saudis wanted to economise on oil shipments to the U.S. by transshipping into smaller tankers near the U.S. eastern seaboard.

INSIGHT quoted St. Lucia Government Ministers as saying that Hess, which is also building an oil complex here, had welcomed the new project, but added that there was growing scepticism as to whether Hess would now construct the refinery which it is committed to under the agreement with the St. Lucia Government.



## CARIBBEAN PRESS COUNCIL CONCERNED ABOUT GRENADA SITUATION

## Fraser, Ryan Statement

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 19 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Friday (CANA) — The Caribbean Press Council has voiced concern about "the rights and liberties" of Grenadian citizens.

A joint statement, following the council's recent annual general meeting in Barbados, has been issued by chairman Justice Aubrey Fraser and deputy chairman Dr. Selwyn Ryan.

"While recognising the government of Grenada, it was nevertheless felt that there was no justification for the government's denial of basic rights to so many of its citizens."

The council noted "particular concern for the suppression of Press freedoms and the continued detention of well over 250 persons, some of whom since March, 1979, and many of whom do not appear to have been engaged in activity which could remotely be considered as being subversive."

Particular reference was made to Lloyd Noel, a former acting Attorney-General of Grenada in the Bishop regime.

The council said that some of the detentions appeared to have been pre-emptive or designed to signal to the population that the government would deal firmly with anyone, however, well-positioned such a person might be, who disagreed openly with it.

"The refusal of the government to have detainees brought before a tribunal so that reasons for their detention could be

made public and considered judicially, was particularly condemned by members of the council," it was said.

The council said that it was also concerned about reports that some detainees had been brutalised by guards.

It said that the Caribbean Press and electronic media, "had a grave responsibility to keep alive the concern which all right-thinking people in the Caribbean have about the continuous erosion of freedom in Grenada, and in particular to highlight the plight of those who languish in Grenada's prisons and makeshift detention camps merely because they dared to differ with the Bishop regime as to what was acceptable or not acceptable in the name of the revolution."

The statement said that it was concerned "about the lack of information regarding the identity of the detainees and recommended that at the earliest possible time a list of the names of the detainees be compiled, together with the dates of their detention and the reasons given for such detention (if any), and that this list be given the widest possible publication in the hope that "world opinion in general and a Caribbean opinion in particular would be brought to bear on the denial of human rights being pursued by the Government of Grenada."

## Grenada Rejoinder

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

ST GEORGE's Grenada Saturday (CANA) — The People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) has repeated its charge that Grenadian journalist Alister Hughes, Executive Secretary of the Caribbean Press Council (CPC), conspired with the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to overthrow the PRG.

The charge came in the course of a statement broadcast today over Radio Free Grenada (RFG) in reply to a release issued on Thursday by CPC Chairman Aubrey Fraser to the CPC annual general meeting held in Barbados on September 9 and to discussions held there on the Grenada situation.

"While recognising that the Government of Grenada had achieved certain positive things for the people of Grenada," the release said, "it was nevertheless felt that there was no justification for the government's denial of basic rights to so many of its citizens."

In its statement on RFG, the PRG charged that CPC is "headed by Hughes who by his own actions is well known as someone who does not support the revolution."

"It is the same Alister Hughes who is a member of the infamous gang of 26 who published the counter-revolutionary 'Grenadian Voice' newspaper as part of a CIA inspired plot to overthrow the revolution earlier this year," the PRG said.

The statement of RFG referred to CPC's particular concern relative to detention of Lloyd Noel, former acting Attorney-General and Minister of Legal Affairs in the PRG. Noel resigned from the PRG in June 1980 because of "differences of opinion" and, following the closure of the Grenadian Voice three months ago, has been held in jail since July 11 last.

The PRG said Noel was arrested for "counter-revolutionary activities" and was a member of the "CIA backed gang of 26," the PRG's name for the 26 shareholders in the company which published the Grenadian Voice.

"Birds of a feather flock together," the PRG said, "and therefore the PRG is not the least surprised that Alister Hughes would use the Caribbean Press Council to defend Lloyd Noel and make it appear that he is some innocent Grenadian citizen who was detained for nothing at all."

The PRG said that knowledge of Noel's "counter-revolutionary activities outside and inside Grenada" is widespread and CPC "seems to be the only set of people who think that he is innocent and patriotic."

"It must also be noted that the meeting at which CPC made the statement took place several months ago and the question must be asked, 'why has the council taken so long before publishing this statement?'

CSO: 3025/10

## SANDINISTS ACCUSED OF LANDING ON HONDURAN ISLAND

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Sep 81 p 2

[Text] Tegucigalpa--There has been a very tense situation during the last 24 hours in Honduran territory inside its boundaries on the Gulf of Fonseca because of the frequent incursions of the Nicaraguan patrols along the Honduran coastline.

The inhabitants of places such as Amapala, Punta Raton, Cedeno and others said yesterday at noon in Tegucigalpa that the incursions by Sandinist patrols inside the Honduran boundaries on the Gulf of Fonseca are a "provocation and a lack of respect for our national sovereignty..."

All of those actions concern the Honduran inhabitants of the area, especially those who are engaged in fishing or who have fishing rights, since this activity cannot be carried out normally because of the constant attacks and threats to which they are subjected by the Sandinists, including those in waters under Honduran or international jurisdiction.

Yesterday it was reported that the Sandinist patrols had reached the height of abuse when it became known that the occupants of one of those vessels made a brief landing on an island near Zacate Grande.

According to that account, the Nicaraguans arrived at the island, landed, remained for a relatively short time and then left, presumably when they found out that the Honduran patrols were approaching the area.

The inhabitants of the area feel that the navy should increase its protection and make sure that the national sovereignty is not violated by the Sandinists all the time.

They concluded by saying that the penetrations by the "Nicas" into the Honduran national waters are so frequent that they can be considered acts of provocation with the purpose of damaging relations between the Nicaraguan and Honduran Governments.

"These confrontations provoked by Nicaragua have some purpose or pursue an objective and one doesn't have to be clairvoyant to guess what it is," one of the inhabitants of Amapala reported.

9204

CSO: 3010/1855

## GUYANA'S ATTITUDE IN TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH VENEZUELA CRITICIZED

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 21 Sep 81 p 7

[Commentary by Rafael Sureda Delgado: "Guyanese Intransigence"]

[Text] The recent statement by Guyana's prime minister threatening Venezuela with a declaration of war, with taking the territorial dispute to the United Nations, and asserting that Guyana will not return even an inch of the Esequibo region, stolen from our country and inherited by Guyana in 1966, is one which we do not characterize as bravado or as an impudent posture, but simply as the continuation of a policy followed by the former colony, British Guiana, today Guyana, expounded in 1963 at the time of the First Ministerial Conference in London. There the British and the Guyanese asserted that everything ended in 1899 in Paris, where five irresponsible arbitration judges usurped from Venezuela its 159,500 square km of the Esequibo region, and that therefore they do not have to return anything to us. The Guyanese maintained this attitude in 1965, at the Second Ministerial Conference, as well as in 1966 when the Geneva Agreement was signed which established the "practical" settlement, and finally during the discussions of the Joint Committee which lasted from 1966 to 1970, the year in which Dr Rafael Caldera, not knowing what to do, overlooked the claim and signed the Port of Spain Protocol.

At the present stage there is an unfreezing of the Geneva Agreement, a decision made by President Luis Herrera, but the situation remains the same, aggravated by the statement of President Forbes Burnham to the effect that as long as Venezuela cannot show that the Award of 1899 and the Arbitration Treaty of 1897, which led to the arbitration award usurping our territory, are worthless no "practical" solution whatever will be possible. This is the thesis which brought about the failure of the Joint Committee's negotiations inasmuch as Venezuela has always considered that the Geneva Treaty does not require an international decision on the Treaty of 1897 or the Award of 1899 but rather that it called on both countries to seek an alternative solution that would be "practical" for the parties involved.

Since this is the way things are, today more than ever there is justification in the suggestion of the College of Internationalists to appoint a committee made up of experts from that organ, the Bar Association, the Venezuelan Institute of Geopolitical and Strategic Studies, the National Security and Defense Council, the communications media, the political parties, and the Front for the Defense of Territorial Integrity and National Sovereignty, among others, to study the future of the territorial claim.

On its part, Venezuela's central government should challenge the official statements of our neighboring country described here since they represent the prelude to the failure of any dialogue with Guyana within the framework of the Geneva Agreement. We would dare to assert that it shows its uselessness if we are unable to nullify the Award of 1899 and its Treaty beforehand, as Dr Lara Pena held on numerous occasions, despite the fact that in the Agreement of 1966 Britain and Guyana recognized that we were making territorial claims on the Esequibo region.

Furthermore, the "practical" settlement of the Venezuelan claim through the implementation of Article 4 of the Agreement (use of peaceful means to solve controversies through negotiation, inquiry, conciliation, good offices, arbitration, or resort to the International Court of Justice) is made almost impossible because of failure to mention deadlines for the selection of one of these means and we could take forever in this endeavor. And let it be known that we who have made this observation are not the only ones to criticize the Agreement. Experts such as Father Hermann Gonzalez-Oropeza and Dr Pablo Ojer, who until recently were advisers at the Foreign Ministry and took part in all the discussions that led to the Geneva Agreement, recognize that the Treaty of 1966 prolongs the discussions indefinitely.

The government cannot continue opening opposition fronts, struggling with all the segments of Venezuelan society, and turning a deaf ear to the suggestions made to it to solve various problems. That of the Esequibo region is serious, especially when we are being threatened with war even though we leave this aspect to our armed forces which must be in a state of readiness before any eventuality.

In concluding, while the Guyanese Government continues to be intransigent by refusing to discuss the "practical" solution, we must prepare ourselves to use drastic, indirect means to solve controversies which are recognized by international law, such as retaliation, reprisals, blockade, a break in diplomatic or consular relations, or any other means that would protect the interests and security of the Venezuelan state.

We hope things won't reach such extremes, but in the life of nations everything has its limit and this is reduced if we are threatened with the support of another country which does not have good relations with us.

2662

CSO: 3610/11



COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

GUYANA PROTESTS CREDIT BLOCKADE BY VENEZUELA IN WORLD BANK

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 28 Sep 81 p 1-7

[Text] Georgetown, 27 September (AFP)--The diplomatic war between Venezuela and Guyana has reached international lending agencies, as the Guyanese vice president, Desmond Hoyte, lodged an official protest with the World Bank over Venezuela's blocking of loans that his country wants for the Mazaruni hydroelectric project, it was learned today.

Venezuela lays claim to 159,000 square kilometers of Guyana's territory, which comes to almost 5/8 of the total area of this English-speaking South American nation that won its independence from Great Britain 15 years ago.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano had written to the World Bank 2 months ago asking it to refuse the loan for the Mazaruni project.

Zambrano felt that because of its location in the disputed Essequibo region the project was unwarranted as long as the governments of Caracas and Georgetown do not reach a final agreement on their border dispute.

The Guyanese authorities have repeatedly pointed out that Venezuela's claim is illogical and clearly demonstrates the Latin American nation's expansionist ambitions in the Caribbean area.

"Venezuela has no right whatsoever to lay the groundwork for Guyana's priorities in the field of our own development, and therefore Venezuela's position is inconsistent," Hoyte noted in his letter.

In addition to being a vice president in the Forbes Burnham administration, Hoyte is minister of planning and finances. "We not only reject Venezuela's claim but we emphatically protest our neighbor's meddling in Guyana's internal affairs, in relation to the credit we have requested for a major national development project," Hoyte's letter added.

Hoyte charged that Venezuela hopes to find oil in the Essequibo region of Guyana, and according to the Guyanese vice president's letter, this was the reason for its efforts to prevent a hydroelectric project from being built there.

According to Hoyte, "we Guyanese have proceeded with the aforementioned hydroelectric project in the full and thorough knowledge of our Venezuelan neighbors, who in 1978 pledged to cooperate in financing the hydroelectric complex."

This is an indirect reference to the remarks by former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez during his visit to Georgetown in 1978.

According to Hoyte, the Mazaruni project, and all that it involves, is vital to the economic future of his nation, which is a member of the nonaligned group.

The diplomatic war between the two nations grew more intense after Guyanese President Forbes Burnham's visit to Caracas last 4 April, when Venezuelan President Luis Herrera voiced his government's intention to revive the country's claim to the region northeast of the Essequibo River.

8743

CSO: 3010/47

TEXT OF CALDERA'S CONVERSATION WITH FIDEL CASTRO

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 26 Sep 81 p D-2

[Article by Alfredo Pena on conversation between Rafael Caldera and Fidel Castro]

[Text] Fidel Castro took the podium at the World Inter-Parliamentary Conference and delivered a fiery, long-winded speech. Most of the audience applauded him, some wildly. The representatives of the United States, England and China remained motionless or got up and left in protest.

Seated on the speakers' platform was Rafael Caldera, the president of the international parliament. The Christian Democrat leader did not applaud Fidel Castro. He listened in silence and when the applause came, he folded his arms. He gave Castro a reproving glance. The revolutionary commander had harshly attacked the United States and Social Christian parties and governments.

Caldera summoned newsmen and branded Castro's speech strange and out-of-place, defending Christian Democracy. Castro had said that criminal dictatorships were being supported in the name of democracy and of Christ himself.

In the very birthplace of the revolution, Caldera had reproached the Cuban leader for his behavior in front of guests from all over the world, who, as we know, profess a wide range of hostile ideologies. Previously, in China, he had disagreed with Peking's leaders and argued in favor of maintaining diplomatic relations between Caracas and Havana.

Three-Hour Talk

The initial impasse between Caldera and Castro led some observers to conclude that there was no chance for a dialogue between the two leaders on this occasion. That was not the case. At a later meeting with Caldera, who countered Castro with dignity, not brazenness, the communist leader was very deferential to the former Venezuelan president.

Castro headed over to the former residence of the owners of Bacardi rum, where Caldera was staying, and began discussing today's most interesting issues. The two statesmen chatted in total privacy, without witnesses. We have

ascertained most of what they discussed, and here is our version of how this summit meeting basically went.

Castro: The Reagan administration has turned out to be a lot more reactionary than we thought...

In his response Caldera quoted a remark by President Kennedy to the effect that fear of negotiating cannot hamper the objective of the negotiations themselves.

Castro: You know Napoleon Duarte well. He shares your politics and ideologies. They say he is a democrat...But Duarte is not the one calling the shots in El Salvador. He's a prisoner of the military dictators...

Caldera: Action by the people, as happened in Venezuela, can lead to the isolation of the most rightwing segments of the Armed Forces. This is a process...Napoleon Duarte is striving to guarantee elections in which the people can decide...A struggle is going on, and Duarte is in the center, between the two extremes of the Left and Right...

Castro: We have to realize that the revolution in Central America and El Salvador is a result of the extreme social injustice that these peoples have suffered. I want a social system for those countries that does away with this shameful situation once and for all...

Caldera: We all want international social justice, but the Salvadorans have to resolve their situation autonomously and independently...

Castro: I am not intervening in El Salvador. I give advice, when I am asked for it. How can I not advise people who think about revolution as I do? Furthermore, you can't talk about free elections under the conditions that prevail in that country today...

Caldera: Duarte can't accept people who carry machine guns during an election campaign. What does experience show us? That when the Armed Forces are destroyed, as happened here in Cuba, the new Armed Forces install a government that outlaws all dissidents and pluralism. That's what happens when you fellows win, whereas when we are the victors (the guerrillas lost in Venezuela), we guarantee freedom for all. There is no Christian Democratic Party here; in my country, the Communist and Marxist parties are represented in Congress. El Salvador is faced with the option of a rightwing or leftwing dictatorship or the establishment of a democracy. The latter is what we want.

Castro: The right wing is already in power. Napoleon Duarte is, I repeat, a prisoner of the military dictators.

Caldera: What stand will you take on our just claim to the Essequibo territory?

Castro: A rumor has been started that I am going to send 20,000 Cuban troops to Guyana. That is untrue! We won't get involved in this dispute. We aren't going to butt in. Burnham is not a man with whom I agree on everything, and I will not alienate the feelings of solidarity of the Venezuelan people, with whom we want the best of relations. We are not going to enter the arms race either.

Caldera: Venezuela has a demonstrably just claim. And we are updating our combat equipment to the extent that defense of our sovereignty requires.

Castro: When you became president of Venezuela, we were told that the COPEI [Social Christian Party] right wing had come to power. Nevertheless, you pursued a very intelligent policy...Herrera, who we were told was on the Left, has complicated things now...It would be unacceptable to our people if the murderers who blew up the Cubana plane were released...

Caldera: Each person governs under different circumstances. Every individual, like every fingerprint, is different. There is a genuine division of powers in my country. The president of the republic cannot interfere with the rulings of judges. The courts and no one else will rule on the case that you mentioned.

Their conversation over, Castro ordered the escorts and chauffeurs away and drove Caldera to Jose Marti Airport himself. He stood by until Rafael Tudela's plane took off back to Caracas. The magnetic figure of the Cuban leader made an impression on Caldera.

8743

CSO: 3010/47

## BRIEFS

CONCESSIONS TO BOLIVIA, ECUADOR--Venpres--The special treatment regulations in the Andean Pact will be radically amended to make it more effective in the interest of the harmonious and balanced development of Bolivia and Ecuador. To specify and clarify the alternatives proposed by his government, Bolivia's minister of integration, Edgard Millares, arrived in Lima and will meet with the members of the Board of the Cartagena Agreement. The Andean Pact Committee recommended the adoption of measures that would make preferential treatment effective through the promotion of specific projects, especially in the industrial and agricultural and livestock sectors, taking the interests of the two above-mentioned countries into account. An effort will be made to promote joint investment and financing for the realization of projects favorable to Bolivia and Ecuador, possibly through the formation of Andean multinational corporations. Under the new arrangement, investments and resulting trade exchanges will be pursued and the participation of both countries will be enhanced. In the meantime, the Cartagena Agreement committee considered that industrial programming is basic to achieving the economic integration of the Andean subregion. However, in analyzing the sectorial programs serious difficulties and limitations have been found which impede the achievement of the desired objectives, so the Committee will continue to discuss the topic in its next series of meetings to be held in Caracas in October 1981. It was decided to evaluate the sectorial programs in the automotive, metallurgical, mechanical, and petrochemical sectors in order to improve them. The analysis should also lead to pragmatic programs that would bring results, taking into account the advantages and limitations of the countries concerned. The Venezuelan industrial sector is particularly interested in revising and amending preferential regulations in the automotive, metallurgical and mechanical, and petrochemical sectors and fitting them into the Agreement. [Text] [Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 21 Sep 81 p 26]

2662

CSO: 3010/11



## BIRD STATEMENT TO BARBUDA COUNCIL ON INDEPENDENCE ISSUE

St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 1 Jul 81 pp 3, 6

[Statement by Lester B. Bird, acting premier, State of Antigua, at talks between Antigua Government officials and Barbuda Local Government Council on 22 June 1981 in Barbuda]

[Text]

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Barbuda Council

I would like to thank you for responding so promptly to my proposal that your Council and officials of the Central Government should meet to discuss areas of mutual interest.

The dispatch with which you responded to my letter provided me with the opportunity not only to continue dialogue which we began in London last December on development in Barbuda, but also to visit my maternal home where I spent many enjoyable days during my boyhood.

This meeting is between brothers: men tied not only by culture and history, but also by birth and by blood. A number of the officials of the Central Government here are Barbudan by birth or descent. Many of us on this side are related to you on that side by blood.

We are not met as adversaries; nor are we met as strangers. We are met as family. And it is in a spirit which recognises our strong bonds that I hope we will conduct this meeting today. The Barbudan people are proud and able. They have always been so, and I have been pleased to proclaim to all, my own Barbudan heritage. Equally, I have been proud

of my Antigua forebears, and nothing would give me greater personal satisfaction than to advance the development of the people of the State of Antigua and Barbuda on a collective basis.

Last Thursday, June 18th, I had the great honour of signing, on behalf of my Government, the Treaty establishing the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). By that act of signature, I committed the people of this State to a deepened relationship with their cousins in the Leeward and Windward Islands. Every Government representative, who signed the Treaty, acknowledged that his own country was too small and lacked the human resources and financial capability to survive individually. Each of those Government representatives recognised that we, the smaller islands of the Caribbean, have to pool our resources in order to survive the pressures of the international environment. We either joined together to strengthen our individual positions or we continued alone and so impaired our already weakened condition.

In that context, Barbuda is no different from the other small islands of the Caribbean. Montserrat has ten times the population of Barbuda and considerably more natural resources, and yet, as the smallest of

the Caribbean countries it acknowledges and pursues the benefits of a close relationship with its sister-States in the region. Antigua cannot seek to give support to its cousins in the region and ignore its brothers and sisters in Barbuda; nor can Barbuda sit idly by without giving support to Antigua.

Ours is not a war with each other. We have a greater battle to fight. It is a battle for improved conditions for all our people; it is a struggle for survival; it is a fight to secure adequate assistance and better terms of trade from the developed world. In a war with each other, we only make it easier for those who would divide us throughout the Caribbean in pursuit of their own objectives which are our continued subjugation and exploitation. We cannot afford to fall victim to that trap. If we are truly interested in the development of our people, then we must marshal them together in common cause for common benefits.

Since the London Constitutional talks in December 1980, the Central Government has carried-out all of the undertakings it gave to devolve greater autonomy to the Barbuda Council in the running of Barbudan affairs. In April 1981, we amended the 1976 Local Government Act to devolve additional powers on the Council. The revised Act now devolves exclusive powers upon the Council for: Administration of agriculture, forestry, public health, medical and sanitary facilities; administration and regulation of the provision of electricity and water services and other public utilities; construction, improvement and maintenance of roads; raising and collection of revenue necessary to enable the Council to meet the expenses of carrying-out its responsibilities.

In addition, at the request of the Barbuda Council, the Central Government abolished the Ministry of Barbuda Affairs and gave the Council the right to deal directly with any Government Department or Ministry on any matter relating to Barbuda.

Further, the Central Government accepted all the recommendations of a Financial Expert sent by the British Gov-

ernment to devise financial arrangements between the Central Government and the Barbuda Council. Among those recommendations were the following: The Central Government would pay to the Barbuda Council 31% of the cost of Administrative and Consumer Services, 44% of the costs of the Spring View Hospital and 56% of the costs of other Public Health, Medical and Sanitary Services. In other words, the Central Government devolved power for these matters to the Council, but yet it still pay a considerable portion of the costs. Moreover, the Government has agreed to pay to the Council the sum of \$300,000 per annum or 40% of the net revenue from the sale of stamps bearing the word "Barbuda", whichever is the higher sum of money.

The Central Government will also continue to pay the cost of Government development projects on the island. What is more, the Central Government will continue to subsidise the cost of electricity to Barbudans until a more acceptable arrangement can be devised. At the moment the highest electricity bill for anyone on Barbuda is \$20 per month since there is no system of meters to measure usage. Most people are charged \$5.25 per month for electricity and Government revenue on an annual basis is approximately \$20,000. But the running cost for electricity in Barbuda is in the vicinity of \$200,000. Meanwhile, Antigua consumers are paying eight times as much for the same units of electricity used in Barbuda.

Since the London talks, the Government has also agreed to make Codrington Airstrip and the river, from the Martello Tower to the Mole, points-of-entry. We are now awaiting the drafting of the legislation before this decision is effected.

There has, therefore, been an attitude of compromise on the part of the Government, there has been a genuine attempt to satisfy the concerns of the Barbuda Council. The Government has sought to provide the best it can for the people of Barbuda. This is not a time for anyone to be unfair and to simply bury his head in the sand without acknowledging that the

Government has addressed the desires of the Barbuda Council in a meaningful way. To do so would be a deception, and any who would pursue such a course will be caught in the end.

If the concerns of the Barbuda Council genuinely reflect a desire to promote the interests of Barbudans, then the Council must be big enough to tell the Barbudan people when those concerns have been satisfied.

I look forward to meaningful and fruitful discussions here today. I expect the talks to be frank and honest. But, I urge a spirit of flexibility and of compromise for when we talk today, we talk not only for the Antiguan and Barbudans of today, but for those who shared our country before us and those who will inherit it after we have gone.

Thank you Mr. Chairman

CSO: 3025/10

## BRIEFS

UK GRANT--Bridgetown, Mon. (CANA)--The British Government today announced a grant to Antigua of \$1.5 million. A British Information Service (BIS) statement here said the money was to provide Antigua with 10 tipper trucks, a road roller, an excavator, a dozer, a loader, five concrete mixers and a hoist, all "urgently" needed by the public works department. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 15 Sep 81 p 5]

CSO: 3025/17

## EDITORIAL SETS FORTH POSITION ON GRENADA, U.S. POLICY

Bridgetown CARIBBEAN CONTACT in English No 4, Aug 81 pp 1, 3

[Editorial: "Our Stand on Bishop's Grenada; Questions of Civil Liberties and American Aggression"]

[Excerpts]

THIS newspaper has no intention of joining the current anti-Cuba, anti-communist hysteria over Grenada that's being spearheaded by some of the most reactionary spokespersons and media interests in the USA and the Caribbean. We remain committed to exposing and opposing the Reagan Administration's plans that are designed, not too subtly, to remove by whatever means, the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in St. George's. We see Washington's destabilisation campaign against the PRG, clouded with calls for "election now", as an extension of America's war against Cuba and as part of its own overall scheme to prevent socialism from spreading its influence in this region where, we are officially told, ideological pluralism is to be respected.

At the same time we would like Prime Minister Maurice Bishop to clearly understand that this newspaper does not countenance denial of civil liberties in any country, and that we strongly favour the Rule of Law and the right to dissent. Consequently, we are anxious that:

1. *The PRG produce its promised Constitution and establish the machinery through which the people of Grenada, a member of the Caribbean Community, can have the opportunity to endorse or reject a government at free and periodic elections.*

We are not asking the PRG to uncritically accept the Westminster parliamentary system of government or to adopt any particular model. We are not making a simplistic call for the "restoration of democracy" in Grenada. We are well aware that under the very corrupt regime of Eric Gairy, democracy was not a viable entity. In contrast to the problems being created for Bishop's PRG, Gairy's staunchly anti-communist government, that was linked with Pinochet's Chile, suffered no pressures from the USA, Britain or any of our Caribbean governments to mend its ways during the misrule of the mystic knight now safely ensconced in the USA.

2. *Failure by the PRG, since its closure of "The Torchlight" in October 1979, to formulate its promised media policy.*

We can understand the siege mentality that pervades the PRG today, because of the intense US pressures, including, naturally, the CIA and the US International Communication Agency. These pressures have included the blocking of post-hurricane rehabilitation aid and development assistance for the new airport at Point Saline, as well as crude attempts to prevent the IMF and the CDB funding PRG programmes.

What has heightened our concern about the absence of the promised media policy, is not that we are unaware of the PRG's fears of the roles played by *El Mercurio* in Chile under the murdered Salvadore Allende, or by the *Gleaner* under the electorally defeated Michael Manley. But if, as the PRG says, a group of Grenadians it has dismissed as "The Gang of 26", violated its "People's Law No. 81" by the publication of a 16-page stencilled newspaper (see last month's *Contact*), then it should institute legal proceedings against those involved rather than simply adding to the population of political prisoners at Richmond Hill and Fort Rupert.

3. *Our third area of concern has to do with the need for the PRG to create the necessary conditions for the trial of at least 120 Grenadians who have been in prison for periods ranging from 28 months—the life of the PRG—to one year.*

A vulnerable island state like Grenada must appreciate how a policy of unchecked political detention can be exploited by its opponents and used as an excuse for external aggression.

Those elements in Grenada who are behind the spate of unsigned, scurrilous, hate-filled pamphlets, threatening the life of Bishop and his PRG Ministers, must bear much of the blame for the mood of siege in the Spice Isle at this time.

The Reagan Administration, with its hypocritical policy on human rights, has said and done much to promote an atmosphere of instability in Grenada. Its attitude towards this small Caribbean island is that of a bully. Mr. Reagan's bedfellows include the rulers of racist South Africa,

Chile, Haiti, Guatemala, and El Salvador. But he insists, as a condition for the "normalisation of US-Grenada relations", on the holding of elections by the PRG. Let us not be deluded. The Reagan White House is not really interested in the civil liberties of the Grenadian masses, or else, it would have been advocating free elections in the countries where they do not exist, including Guyana, which, like Grenada, is also a member of the Caribbean Community.

Reagan's "shuttle diplomat" for the Middle East, PHILIP HABIB, has stated in a "position paper" on the Caribbean that Grenada under the PRG represents "the first non-democratic change of governments" in CARICOM. Mr. Habib is badly misinformed. The first such example in the Caribbean Community is the Republic of Guyana under Forbes Burnham's PNC Government. That is the government which the CIA and British intelligence initially helped to bring to power. Crooked elections that involved the hi-jacking of ballot boxes by the security forces, as happened in Guyana, are not what should be considered a "democratic change" of government.



## IN BURNHAM'S GUYANA

In Burnham's Guyana the right to freely choose a government died twelve years ago. Today, US intrigues and help from the IMF have assisted the PNC in associating socialism—in the minds of a great many Guyanese—with electoral fraud; a muzzled press; food lines; state repression and political murder. For his anti-socialist contributions, the USA, heartland of capitalism, is understandably grateful to Mr. Burnham. We know of those in and out of CARICOM who are silent on Burnham's Guyana but never reluctant to attack Bishop's PRG.

Yet, the Reagan White House can live with Burnham's brand of "co-operative socialism", Duvalier's Haiti, or South Africa's apartheid system, but not, apparently, with Bishop's PRG.

In Grenada, where Washington is not convinced that it can bend the knees of the NJM in the way it and the IMF have clearly succeeded with the PNC in Georgetown, what the Reagan team is hoping to achieve before the next round of US presidential elections, is to destroy Grenada-Cuba friendship—even if it means mounting an invading force of mercenaries and liquidating the PRG's leadership.

But one Cuba is seen in Reagan's Washington as one too many. It sees it as a threat to the interests of the USA which has arrogated to itself the role of the global policeman.

If any harm should befall the PRG's leadership, this newspaper will be in no doubt about US involvement. Although some ruling parties and private sector groups in the region are also critical of current developments in Grenada, it is to be noted that the CARICOM Foreign Ministers have come out in strong support of Grenada against US aggression (*Page 13*); and that the Socialist International continues to give support to the PRG, as do various representative organisations around the Caribbean. For the good of the region, in the interest of bridges of friendship between the peace and freedom-loving PEOPLE of the USA and the Caribbean, we sincerely hope that:

(a) All of our Caribbean governments will demonstrate a healthy respect for civil liberties; and

(b) That some new initiative will be taken in both Washington and St. George's to end the politics of confrontation that poses a threat to the stability not only of Grenada but the entire region.

CSO: 3025/10

## BRIEFS

**TIGHTENED CREDIT**--The Barbados Central Bank yesterday announced a five-point package of tight credit measures aimed at strengthening the country's balance of payments position. The measures include a directive to commercial banks to reduce personal and consumer instalments credit outstanding by 10 per cent over the period ending March 31, 1982; an increase in the domestic deposit liabilities which commercial banks are required to hold with the Central Bank, and an increase in the prime and average lending rate. In addition the minimum interest payable on savings deposits at commercial banks has been increased from seven to eight per cent, while the discount rate payable by commercial banks for short-term borrowing from the Central Bank to meet liquidity needs has been raised from 10 per cent to 18 per cent. [By Jewel Brathwaite] [Excerpt] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Sep 81 p 1]

**IMPORT CONTROL MEASURES**--Central Bank Governor, Dr. Courtney Blackman, said yesterday that about two-thirds of all expenditure by Barbadians is on imports, and every time a Barbadian spends one dollar, the Bank is forced to find 67 cents equivalent of foreign exchange. Dr. Blackman was speaking to newsmen shortly after outlining new credit measures to improve the island's balance of payments position. The Central Bank Governor said that one way of curbing that, when the island was in such a balance of payments position, was to make it more difficult for Barbadians to spend money. He explained that many of the more substantial items like motor cars, refrigerators and electronic equipment, were usually purchased with credit. "So therefore if we are able to reduce the credit available to people who want to purchase goods from abroad, we will then be able to reduce significantly the quality of imports and so strengthen our balance of payments position," the Central Bank governor declared. He said that credit was related to imports, and if Barbados can reduce credit especially to the personal sector, and to the consumer sector in general, the country will hopefully be able to reduce imports. In the measures announced by Dr. Blackman, no restrictions were imposed on credit to the productive sectors--tourism, manufacturing and sugar. This was because, he added, these sectors will enable the country to earn foreign exchange since according to him "we have to earn foreign exchange to come out of our present difficulties." He went on: "At the same time we should like businessmen to be economical in the uses of that credit, so we have made credit a little more expensive for them, but we have left it more or less open so that they can obtain the credit to continue exporting to keep Barbadians at work, and to earn foreign exchange for us." [Text] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Sep 81 p 1]

WAGE RESTRAINT OPPOSITION--The Barbados Union of Teachers (BUT) has rejected the suggestion made by Central Bank Governor, Dr. Courtney Blackman, that wage restraint be employed in the light of the present economic situation in Barbados, a BUT statement said yesterday. "Dr. Blackman warned that what he termed high wage increases would cause hardships as well as massive lay-off of workers," the statement said. It added: "However, the BUT President Victor Hutchinson has described Dr. Blackman's pronouncements as the kind of prelude to salary-revision negotiations for Public Workers, which the Public of Barbados has become accustomed to by now." The statement quoted Mr. Hutchinson as saying that pronouncements of this nature by Dr. Blackman "were becoming a feature of the period immediately preceding negotiations for salary revision for public workers and therefore would have surprised few people." The BUT President added that rather than help, a policy of wage-restraint could worsen the present economic situation in which the spending power of workers was being steadily weakened by the increasing level of inflation and the unrelenting rise in prices. The statement pointed out that Mr. Hutchinson was of the opinion that efforts were being made to psychologically prepare the public for a policy of wage restraint and very low salary-increases "by the steady bombardment of propaganda of the type recently exhibited." Mr. Hutchinson added it was difficult to reconcile "the high praises being sung of the economic health of the nation with the wailing which follows so closely behind these praises." [Text] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Sep 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/17

## VIERA RESIGNS AS WHIP, UNDERCUTS GIBBONS' AUTHORITY

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 15 Sep 81 pp 1, 3

[Text]

Former Cabinet Minister Mr. Harry Viera has resigned the Government whip and is refusing to recognise the authority of the Premier.

The outspoken backbench M.P. confirmed his shock decision yesterday after informing United Bermuda Party leaders at the weekend. Mr. Viera, who has now declared himself "Independent U.B.P.", said he will not rejoin the parliamentary group until a new leader is chosen.

"I am leaving because of the lack of leadership," the 46-year-old former Minister without Portfolio said. "I have no personal quarrel with any politician and I believe that there are a lot of hard workers in the party. It is a good party but I see some members altering the truth to suit their own ends. I am very tired of it. I am very tired of predicting what will happen and not being listened to."

Mr. Viera added that he would not do anything to bring the Government down and he has not called on other M.P.s to join his revolt.

"I will continue to serve my constituents (Southampton West) and hope that they will understand why it was necessary for me to pursue this course of action."

Mr. Viera, U.B.P. M.P. since the 1960s, declined to specify his reasons for quitting. But he is known to have been disgruntled by Government's handling of the lengthy strike in April and about the direction of Premier the Hon. David Gibbons' leadership.

"It is not one issue," he said. "We have been making too many mistakes. I am trying to force us into working like a team again and stop

behaving like a bunch of people from kindergarten. It is no use talking inside party caucuses."

Mr. Viera's decision comes about six months after he told The Royal Gazette there was no question of him trying to oust Mr. Gibbons. "I do not go round making or breaking Premiers," Mr. Viera said in February after charging that Mr. Gibbons, also Minister of Finance, has taken on too much power and work for one man.

Mr. Viera has had an often stormy and controversial career within the U.B.P. He created a hard-line image as Minister of Community Relations in his first Cabinet

post, and was later switched to Minister without Portfolio.

He was believed to have been dropped from Cabinet after last year's election because his outspoken views had embarrassed the party too many times. Mr. Viera was also a member of the reform group which ousted Mr. Gibbons' predecessor, the Hon. Sir John Sharpe.

His latest bombshell does not affect his membership of the U.B.P., only his relationship to the parliamentary group, and it will reduce the party's majority in the House of Assembly to two.

Mr. Viera stressed that his decision had nothing to do with the expected resignations of Senator Quinton Edness as Minister of Community Affairs and Mr. William Cox, as Parliamentary Secretary for Government and Commercial Services.

The U.B.P. remained tight-lipped yesterday over Mr. Viera's decision. In a two-sentence statement, party chairman, Sir John Plowman said: "The U.B.P. regrets that Mr. Viera has decided to sit, as he states, as an independent U.B.P. member in Parliament and will not be attending caucus meetings. We note that Mr. Viera expects to rejoin the caucus in due course."

## BRIEFS

CABINET CHANGES--Senator Quinton Edness yesterday resigned as Minister of Community Affairs--making way for Mrs. Ann Cartwright DeCouto to become Government's only woman Cabinet Minister. Within minutes of Senator Edness stepping down the 36-year-old lawyer was sworn in at Government House. With her was her brother-in-law Mr. Ernest DeCouto, 55, who swells the Cabinet to 12 by taking up the newly-created post of Minister of Youth and Sport. "Family Affair," commented Premier the Hon. David Gibbons as the two DeCouto's took the oath from Acting Governor Mr. Peter Lloyd. Mrs. Cartwright DeCouto said afterwards that she hoped she could live up to the record of Senator Edness who had quit the Cabinet post to concentrate on his position as managing director of Bermuda Broadcasting Co., operators of ZBM. "I am delighted," said Mrs. Cartwright DeCouto, adding that it was too early to make public any plans she intended to initiate. The Premier said it had been decided to split Youth and Sport and Community Affairs to separate the work load which had grown in recent months. [Excerpt] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 16 Sep 81 pp 1, 2]

CSO: 3025/17

## BRIEFS

TIES WITH VATICAN--Diplomatic relations were established between the Vatican and the Commonwealth of Dominica this week. The relations are at ambassadorial level. The papal legate in Trinidad & Tobago, the most Reverend Paul Tabet, will be accredited to Dominica. A few weeks ago, a representative of the Papal Nunciature in Port-of-Spain was in Dominica to deliver an official note signifying the agreement of the Vatican to the establishment of diplomatic relations with Dominica and to finalise minor details in that regard. [Text] [Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 5 Sep 81 p 6]

CSO: 3025/17



## BRIEFS

LOAN TO CEPA--The Autonomous Executive Ports Commission (CEPA) has received a loan of 2,328,000 colones to develop the final designs for the Container Terminal Project of the Port of Acajutla. According to the official announcement, the contract in question was signed at the Ministry of Planning and the appropriation was authorized by the Salvadoran Fund for Preinvestment Studies (FOSEP). The final engineering designs for the project will be done by the U.S. firm of Frederick R. Harris, Inc., of New York, which conducted the project feasibility study, it was learned. It was also stated that the terminal will increase ship berthing capacity, eliminate the need for additional wharves to handle container cargo until at least the year 2000, and promote foreign trade and national development in general. The project will be started next year and the estimated date of completion is December, 1983. The announcement said that FOSEP, which provided the funding, is an autonomous financial institution established within the planning sector to support investment project studies in both the public and private sectors in cooperation with qualified consulting firms. [Text] [San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 11 Sep 81 p 2] 9015

CSO: 3010/16

## BISHOP: ECONOMIC RECESSION IN WEST AFFECTS OUR ECONOMY

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Sep 81 p 6

[Text]

ST GEORGES, Grenada, Thursday, (CANA) — Grenada is losing millions of dollars because of the economic recession in the Western industrialised nations, according to Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Mr Bishop said that the country's economy is facing a severe threat because four of its five major foreign exchange earners are under tremendous pressure.

The government reported this week that the agriculture sector, primarily bananas, nutmeg and cocoa, suffered almost EC\$1.2 million (one EC Caribbean dollar equal 37 cents US) in damage from last month's freak storm.

Grenada had been forced to store a large quantity of nutmegs because of its inability to find markets for the product, Mr. Bishop said.

He added that a recent 55 per cent drop in the price of cocoa on the world market was affecting the Grenada economy.

Mr. Bishop noted that the situation was similar in the banana industry and said "our

farmers are questioning whether it is at all feasible to continue to produce bananas."

"The agricultural export earners have been in for a haltering and there is no immediate signs that things are about to improve," he said.

The Grenadian Prime Minister said that the threat posed to the Grenada economy was severe because the country's tourism sector was also being hampered by the recession.

Mr. Bishop charged that a propaganda destabilisation campaign aimed at Grenada was also ensuring a drop in foreign exchange earnings from tourism.

CSO: 3025/11

## COMMISSION ESTABLISHED TO OVERSEE LAND DEVELOPMENT LAW

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 20 Sep 81 p 4

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Sept. 15 (CANA)--The Grenada Government has set up a seven-man commission with special powers to ensure that occupiers of 100 acres or more land fulfil their responsibilities under a land development and utilisation law passed last month.

Under the law it is the responsibility of the occupier to farm his land "to such extent as may be practicable having regard to the character and situation of the unit and other relevant circumstances."

If the commission is satisfied, that the land is not being so farmed, it may, after giving the occupier an opportunity to be heard, declare that land to be "idle."

An appeal against the commission's decision may be made to the Minister of agriculture. If the appeal fails, the commission may call on the occupier of the land to submit a development plan for the land which has been declared idle.

If the occupier fails to submit such a plan, or after submitting a plan which is approved by the commission, if he fails to carry out that plan to the satisfaction of the commission, the minister of agriculture "shall have the power to acquire compulsorily a leasehold interest in the land or any part thereof under the provision of this law to the exclusion of any other tenancy, lease, license or other right to use or occupy the land."

Such a lease may be for a maximum of 10 years with the minister having the power to renew it for a further 10, the annual rental being "on the basis that each year's rent shall be the equivalent of one per cent of the unimproved value of the land as agricultural land at the time of commencement of the lease..."

Should there be a mortgage on the land, unless there is an agreement with the minister otherwise, interest payments on the mortgage must be paid by the minister while the occupier is responsible for payments towards the capital.

Other provisions of the law forbid the owner or occupier of "agricultural land of any size whatsoever," without the approval of the commission, to "sell, lease, let out otherwise, charge or encumber or subdivide the land or any part thereof;

or transfer or assign his interest therein or in any part thereof, whether or not for consideration."

In this law, agricultural land means land used for agriculture or land declared by the commission to be agricultural land.

CSO: 3025/11

## INITIAL DREDGING PHASE IN AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

St. George's Grenada Saturday (CANA) — PROJECT Manager of the Grenada International Airport Construction Project, Ron Smith, has said here that the first phase of the dredging operations at the airport site was now completed.

The airport, with massive Cuban aid, is being built at Point Saline, a project which has aroused opposition from the United States.

The course of the runway runs directly across an inlet of the sea, Hardy Bay, and the first phase of the \$6 million dredging job, which was undertaken in July by the American firm of Layne Dredging Ltd, was to remove a layer of four to six feet of mud from the bed in the bay.

Smith said that on the way to Grenada, the dredging company lost a barge at sea with certain vital equipment, and that replacements were being awaited so that the second phase could start.

That phase is the pumping of sand from offshore to build a causeway across the 20-foot deep Hardy Bay, and this operation is expected to be completed towards the end of November.

Another development taking place at the site, Smith said, was the concreting of the western end of the runway, the point at which aircraft will turn around and get ready for take-off.

"This has to be constructed of concrete," Smith explained

"because there is a likelihood of fuel spillage when these aircraft turn around prior to take-off, and fuel will affect asphalt whereas it does not affect concrete."

Smith said the asphalt-mixing plant has now been assembled and is undergoing trials and adjustments prior to starting work on the runway.

It was announced earlier this year that it was hoped that enough of the runway to the West of Hardy Bay would be completed by November to permit landing by Liat's Avro-48 aircraft.

## BRIEFS

EEC GRANT FOR AIRPORT--St. George's, Grenada, Sept 15 (CANA)--The Grenada government is to receive a grant of about six million EC dollars (1 EC dollar 37 cents US) from the European Economic Community (EEC) to go towards the construction of the island's new international airport. This was announced here by the head of the EEC mission in Trinidad and Tobago, G. C. Watterson, who is now on an official visit to Grenada. He said the grant was coming from the European Development Fund, to which Grenada is affiliated through the Lome 2 convention which links European to developing countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP). [Text] [Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 20 Sep 81 p 4]

CSO: 3025/11



DEPUTY SAYS: 'WE WERE NAIVE WITH REGARD TO BELIZE'

Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 19 Jun 81 p 7

[Text] "I believe that we were naive in regard to the bases for agreement on the settlement of the problem of Belize, which was signed by delegates from Belize, Britain and Guatemala a few months ago and which were the points of reference to arrive at a treaty," said Deputy Napoleon Alfaro (PR) [Revolutionary Party], the former secretary of the Congress.

"I said when these bases were made known that the British were going to promote international pressure. This pressure has appeared in Belize, we have learned.

"It is curious that Ben Lindson, who formerly led the opposition, before requesting status and independence for Belize, reminded us that they had no economic or military resources and that the independence which Price was demanding was dubious."

"He said this in 1978 at the Fourth UN Commission. I personally heard him. And when the bases for agreement were made known, it was the same opposition led by himself which pointed out that these bases were prejudicial to the territory because it should be given complete independence.

"There is a heavy hand around and I believe it comes from England to bring the negotiations to a standstill, because they do not accept the points of agreement.

"In the second place," continued Deputy Alfaro, "public opinion in Guatemala did not make itself clear on this matter. We realize that the 'the birds fire upon the rifles' and that it is in Belize that they are demonstrating against these points.

Guatemalan opinion must be brought together so that a clear decision can be made as to what will be most beneficial for our country; that the bases for agreement be revoked in the talks,--which are not understood--so that they can be analyzed by the people in order that they may express their opinions and thus know how to defend the aforementioned bases.

8956

CSO: 3010/1474

## PPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS, ISSUES STATEMENT ON PNC

Georgetown MIRROR in English 6 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

THE People's Progressive Party, in a week-end press statement reported on a recent meeting of the Central Committee:—

The aggravated situation in the international arena and the worsening conditions of the Guyanese working people under the democratic and corrupt rule of the PNC were subjects of broad discussions at the recent meeting of the Central Committee of the People's Progressive Party.

The Central Committee reviewed particularly the process of the deepening of the political, economic and social crisis engulfing the nation and the inability of the ruling party to solve the most vital questions facing the people and the country. This inability stems from the nature of the petty bourgeois, nationalist regime which seeks only to keep itself in power contrary to the wishes of the vast majority of the people. Its pro-imperialist position and its lack of internal support, together with the PNC's demagogic postures of socialism have paved the way for imperialist agencies like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to dictate anti-working class policies. This, coupled with the lack of democracy, has led to a sharp decline in production, steep rise in cost of living, inflation, devaluation of the Guyana dollar and consequently political repression to suppress the struggles for betterment.

The PNC's use of the border dispute with Venezuela, as a scape goat for not paying workers a living wage, and the spinelessness of the Guyana Trades Union Congress were examined. The Central Committee unanimously resolved to continue the fight for a government of national consensus based on democracy, anti-imperialism, and socialist-orientation as a sure and realistic solution to the plight of the country and the working masses. However, it was decided that the PNC does not possess the support, political

will or capacity to take such a path. The PNC has become an obstacle to progress and must therefore be removed.

For the removal of the regime the Party has decided to strengthen itself and use every possible avenue available to organise the toiling masses. Lengthy discussions were held as to the state of the various Party bodies, Commissions and its youth, mass organisation and women arms. The Party continues to agitate on all fronts around the slogan of 'ORGANISE AND RESIST'

— to organise means the people will be better prepared to resist the tyranny.

The aggressiveness of the Reagan administration has led, on the international scene, to the re-introduction of cold-war and big-stick methods in fighting against national liberation and socialism under the pretext of combatting 'Soviet Terrorism'. The escalating arms race, taking the world on the brink of a nuclear confrontation, seems to be the corner stone of the United States adventurism. The open support to fascist and other tyrannical regimes such as El Salvador, Guatemala, Chile, South Africa, etc., has characterised the new policies of the US administration.

Out of the discussions the Central Committee unanimously agreed to continue the fight for peace which today has become a most vital question as the very existence of the human race and our planet is at stake.

Two resolutions were passed condemning the United States for its provocation against the Grenadian revolution and its plans to invade the island; and the invasion by racist South Africa of Angola. The resolutions expressed full support to the peoples of Angola and Grenada.

## CHRISTOPHER JONES NEW ENVOY TO SURINAME; CHAN HONORED

Decoration in Paramaribo

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 16 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

GUYANESE diplomat Phillip Chan who was until recently Guyana's Ambassador to the neighbouring Republic of Suriname was last Thursday decorated with that country's highest award for foreigners — the Grand Master of the Honourable Order of the Palm

The conferment took place at Paramaribo's Presidential Palace. In bestowing the decoration, Surinamese President Dr. Henk Chin-A-Sen stated that he had been always impressed with the dedication of the Ambassador in the execution of his duties in all areas, including sports.

The President expressed appreciation of the contribution made by Cde Chan in increasing and intensifying the co-operation between the two South American republics. His entire government and the Surinamese people were pleased with the decision to confer the honour on the Guyanese Ambassador.

In replying to the President Cde Chan noted that ever since his appointment as Ambassador in 1979 he had sought to fulfil one of his greatest desires — the strengthening of ties between the two governments and peoples.

He referred to a recent statement by Guyana's Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson on Guyana-Suriname relations and said "Like my Minister, I believe that with patience and dedication, we can settle all outstanding questions with Suriname. A good infrastructure of agreement and understanding has already been created."

Ambassador Chan who is now home before going to Moscow to take up the post of Ambassador to the Soviet Union, served for some five years in Suriname during which he rose from the rank of First Secretary to that of Ambassador, a fact noted by the Surinamese President.  
[GNA]

## Jones Assignment

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 16 Sep 81 pp 1, 6

[Text]

**CDE CHRISTOPHER**  
[**"Pryor"**] Jones has been appointed Guyana's new Ambassador to neighbouring Suriname following the reassignment of Ambassador Phillip Chan.

Cde Jones whose last assignment was in Toronto as Consul/ General, did several public service administration courses before pursuing studies in administration and personnel management at New York's Fordham University in 1969.

A former Administration Officer of a UN sponsored programme, Cde Jones was also Personnel Officer in the Ministry of Education and Social Development and an acting District Commissioner

in the Ministry of Local Government.

Upon entry into diplomatic service in 1968 he was Executive and Administrative Officer of Guyana's Permanent Mission to the UN. He was also Regional Information Officer responsible for Toronto and Ontario and Consul General in New York.

The 51-year-old diplomat who hails from Linden also served in Washington as Minister Counsellor before going to Toronto.

No date has been fixed for his presentation of credentials to the Suriname Head of State, President Venk Chin-A-Sen.

CSO: 3025/12

## WPA CALLS FOR OUTSIDE PROBE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Saturday, (CANA) — A GUYANA Opposition party called on the Caribbean and the world to probe human rights violations in this country, shortly after some of its top members had appeared in court yesterday on charges.

The Working People's Alliance (WPA) sent its appeal through cables to regional governments, the United Nations Human Rights Commission, Amnesty International and the British Human Rights Group.

A WPA spokesman said the cables urged that the recipients make inquiries about what is happening in relation to human rights in Guyana.

The move was made after 25 WPA members appeared in court accused of taking part on Thursday in an unlawful procession.

Guyana Police are saying that they give the WPA permission to hold a meeting, not to march on the streets.

Six were released on their own surety, while 19 others were granted bail.

Two of the accused were absent — co-leader Eusi Kwayana, who is said to be in custody in Berbice County, and John Williams, injured in

hospital, allegedly from police beating.

The WPA spokesman said Kwayana's wife Tschaiko Ruramai also was treated at hospital, as were a number of other persons.

One of the accused released on bail was rearrested shortly afterwards for what the police said was loitering in the vicinity of the court. She was identified as Karen Desouza.

Another leading member, lawyer Moses Bhagwan, was released by police yesterday after overnighing in custody. He had been arrested at the home of co-leader Dr. Rupert Roopnarine which police raided under the National Security Act, explaining they were searching for arms and ammunition.

## SABOTEURS BLAMED FOR CANEFIELD FIRES OVER 100 ACRES

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 8 Sep 81 p 9

[Text]

SABOTEURS have again struck in the sugar belt in Berbice over 100 acres of cane were destroyed by fire in two sugar estates in Region Six over the weekend.

The latest act of sabotage was reported at Skeldon Estate on the upper Corentyne where management said that between 80 and 100 acres of cane were destroyed last night.

The blaze which was discovered by estate security was put out by workers before it spread to other fields.

And at Rose Hall Estate, Canje, Guysuco management said that 45 acres of ripe cane were set afire at Providence, East Bank, Berbice on Sunday night.

This incident was also described by the police as an act of arsonists and a

number of persons have so far been questioned by the lawmen.

These acts have been described by the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs (NCLDO) as deeds of violence against the economy of the country.

In a recent statement signed by NCLDO's President, Hulbert McGowan, the organisation called upon village leaders throughout the country to exercise greater vigilance in their respective areas so as to put an end to such practices.

The police in Berbice along with Guysuco security have introduced certain measures which should bring to justice those involved in what was described as efforts to destabilise in the sugar industry.

(GNA)

[Editor's note: The GUYANA CHRONICLE in English on 11 September 1981, page 1, reports that: "The Chairman of the state-run Guyana Sugar Corporation (GUYSUCO) Cde. Harold Davis, has called for an end to arson in the country's sugar industry. Cde Davis made the call yesterday after disclosing that 678.6 acres of sugar canes have been burnt so far this year by arsonists."]

CSO: 3025/12



## BRIEFS

**POLICE DETENTIONS**--The Guyana Bar Association (GBA) has expressed its deep concern over reports that large numbers of persons have been detained by police for 'unclear or unspecified reasons' and held under harsh conditions. The Association's statement follows: 'Reports have reached the Guyana Bar Association that several hundred persons have been detained by the Police at Police Stations in Guyana. Since Thursday 20th August 1981, allegations were made that a large number of persons were being held at the Brickdam Police Station for unclear or unspecified reasons without being given adequate food and without any right to receive meals from their relatives and friends. In the issue of the DAILY CHRONICLE of Tuesday 25th August 1981 it was reported that in Berbice 812 persons had been arrested for allegedly petty traffic offences; the size of this number is unprecedented. The Police were reported in many cases to have stated that the detainees were being held pending enquiries. The G.B.A. expresses its deep concern over these reports and strongly deprecates any attempt to make inroads into the right to personal liberty which can have traumatic effects on the society, the preservation of democracy, and the Rule of Law.' [Text] [Georgetown MIRROR in English 6 Sep 81 p 1]

**KIM IL-SUNG GREETINGS**--President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Cde. Kim Il Sung, has sent a message of congratulations to President Forbes Burnham on his recent re-election as leader of the ruling People's National Congress at the party's recent fourth Biennial Congress. The text of the message reads: "I on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and all Party members, extend my warmest congratulations to you on your re-election as the leader of the People's National Congress of Guyana at your historic fourth Biennial Congress. Your re-election as the leader of the People's National Congress of Guyana is the expression of high respect and trust of all members of your Party towards you who are correctly leading the struggle to consolidate the national independence and build a new society under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence. I wish you great successes in your work to implement the decision of your Party Congress as well as good health". Cde Kim Il Sung is also General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 6 Sep 81 p 1]

**1980 TRADE DEFICIT**--Guyana's balance of payments deficit increased by \$1 million in 1980 over the 1979 figure, according to the recently published annual report of the Bank of Guyana. In 1979, the deficit on the current account was \$G 209 million representing 17 per cent of the Gross National Product (total value of all

goods and services produced in the country). In 1980, this increased to G\$ 300 million, representing 21 per cent of the country's Gross National Product. To finance this balance of payments deficit (the gap between money earned and money spent by the country), the country had to draw G\$ 215 million from the net international reserves of the banking system. This forced the international reserves position to a "negative level" of G\$ 396 million. The report also stated that the international reserve position was adversely affected by a G\$ 6 million accumulation of commercial arrears in 1980. The deterioration of the balance of payments resulted from an increase in the importation of goods and services which was two per cent more than the 31 per cent growth in the value of imports. The situation was further aggravated by the fact that net capital inflows to the country were way below targeted levels. The value of exports in 1980 increased by G\$ 249 million or 31 per cent mainly through an increase in the prices of exports and not from the expected increases in production. In fact, production levels in rice, sugar and bauxite were below expectations by approximately 15 per cent. Further, merchandise imports increased by G\$ 274 million or 34 per cent, contributing to a 44 per cent growth in the trade deficit as compared with 1979. The trade deficit in 1979 was G\$ 64 million. In 1980 it rose to G\$ 92 million.--(GNA). [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 6 Sep 81 p 12]

NEW SECRETARIES--Three new Permanent Secretaries were recently sworn in at a simple ceremony in the Presidential complex at New Garden Street. Cde Victor Nemdhari was sworn in as Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Light Industries, Cde Cecil Baird as Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Forestry, and Cde John Browman, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture. The Oath of Office was administered by Cde C.E. Douglas, C.C.H., head of the Presidential Secretariat. (GNA) [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 6 Sep 81 p 13]

PPP DEFECTION--Cde Bhola Persaud, a former People's Progressive Party (PPP) Member of Parliament and manager of GIMPEX a trading arm of the PPP has resigned from the party. A former member of the PPP General Council for 13 years, he was also a senior member of the PPP-backed Rice Producers Association, and member of the Rice Marketing Board. In a statement to the Press Cde Persaud declared: "I have spent the major portion of my life-span toiling effortlessly, honestly and risking my physical stature and today I am a poor, disillusioned person. I met thousands of well-wishers who are anxious to stand by me and also resign from the PPP." Born at Adventure, Essequibo Coast, Cde Persaud, who claimed that he was with the PPP since its inception, was also an organiser of his party. Since leaving the PPP he has pledged his support to the ruling People's National Congress. Cde Bhola Persaud was among the first persons to be detained and among the last to be released at Sibley Hall. According to Cde Persaud, he was in detention for three years and 16 days. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 3 Sep 81 p 1]

MESSAGE TO DPRK--President Forbes Burnham yesterday noted that the Guyanese and Korean people are drawn ever closer together by the ever-growing ties of friendship and co-operation. Cde Burnham was communicating his sentiments to DPRK leader, President Kim Il Sung, on the thirty-third anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to be celebrated today. The message said: "It is with pleasure that I send warm fraternal greetings and congratulations on behalf of myself, the ruling People's National Congress, the Government

and people of Guyana to you and to the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the occasion of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Our two peoples, sharing as we do similar aspirations for our economic and social well being, are drawn closer together by the evergrowing ties of friendship and co-operation between Guyana and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. At this time we wish to reiterate our support for the peaceful reunification of Korea on the basis of the joint communique of 4th July, 1972, and the recently put forward ten-point programme. I am convinced that in the years ahead the friendship and co-operation between our two countries will continue to strengthen for the mutual benefit of both countries. With our hopes for the further strengthening of these good relations go our best wishes for your good health and for the continued prosperity and progress of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea". Diplomatic relations between the two countries were established on May 18, 1974, and both countries have ambassadors accredited to each other's governments. The D.P.R.K. Ambassador here is Cde Pax Ri Hyon while Guyana's Ambassador designate to the People's Republic of China is Cde. Altaf Mohamed.--(GNA). [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 9 Sep 81 p 2]

MESSAGE TO BRAZIL--President Forbes Burnham has expressed confidence that Guyana's and Brazil's participation in the Treaty of Amazonian Co-operation will contribute to the continuing friendship, development, and prosperity of the two countries and the region. Cde. Burnham's sentiments were expressed in a message sent to his Brazilian counterpart, President Joao Baptista Figueredo on the occasion of Brazil's National Day which was celebrated on Monday. In his message, Cde. Burnham said: "It gives me great pleasure to extend to you, to the Government and people of the Federative Republic of Brazil warm felicitations and best wishes on my own behalf and on behalf of the Government and people of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana on the occasion of your National Day. As neighbouring countries Guyana and Brazil have developed close ties of friendship and co-operation over the years. I am certain that our participation in the Treaty of Amazonian Co-operation will contribute to our continuing friendship and to the development and prosperity of our countries and the region. May the years ahead see the further strengthening of these close ties for the mutual benefit of our countries. May I take this opportunity to wish you good health and happiness, and continued prosperity for the people of the Federative Republic of Brazil." (GNA) [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 9 Sep 81 p 2]

COASTAL MAPPING--Aerial photography of the Guyana Coast is to begin shortly, with a view to producing a revised series of maps. A Piper Navajo aircraft, owned by the British firm of BKS (Surveys) Ltd., is now in Guyana for the three-month project. The plane is equipped with an advanced computerised navigation system and a high resolution camera which uses infra-red film to ensure that all irrigation channels and water courses are photographed clearly. The tab for the exercise is to be picked up by the British Directorate of Overseas Surveys. The maps will be drawn at a scale of 1:50,000. The Guyana Coast was originally mapped 20 years ago by the Directorate. Subsequent developments in the region have made these maps out of date. Attempts were made to photograph the coast in 1979 and 1980, but persistent clouds hindered the project. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 9 Sep 81 p 3]

AID FROM CANADA--Guyana is among a number of Caribbean countries earmarked by Canada for receipt of priority development assistance. Canada's new High Commissioner Julian Payne gave this assurance to Guyana yesterday when he presented his credentials to Vice-President Desmond Hoyte at State House. Mr. Payne, who replaces Mr. John Graham, was reaffirming what he said was Canada's "clear and unequivocal" commitment to providing Commonwealth Caribbean countries with development assistance as part of that country's external policy. Mr. Payne said Canada's priority aid programme to Guyana and other Commonwealth Caribbean states would include development aid, trade, investment and increasing regional co-operation. The new Canadian High Commissioner said Guyana and Canada face similar challenges in developing and exploiting their tremendous resources to realise their potential, and he offered further assistance from Canada in developing this country's technological skills. Vice-President Hoyte acknowledged Canada's offer and he praised Canada for its efforts in supporting the struggles of developing countries to achieve a just and equitable international economic system. Canada had also been a good example of bilateral economic co-operation, Cde. Hoyte noted. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 15 Sep 81 p 16]

PNC MESSAGE TO ETHIOPIA--The Central Executive Committee of the People's National Congress of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana has sent a message to the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia on the Seventh Anniversary of the Revolution. Following is the message. The Central Executive Committee of the People's National Congress would like to express to the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia its greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the Ethiopian Revolution. The People's National Congress supports the efforts of the Provisional Military Administrative Council to develop the economy and improve conditions of life for the people of Ethiopia. Guyana shares the view of the Organisation of African Unity that the territory and borders inherited from the colonial era should remain unchanged. The People's National Congress therefore supports fully and unreservedly Ethiopia's efforts to maintain its territorial integrity. The Central Executive Committee of the People's National Congress also expresses the hope that the Provisional Military Administrative Council would achieve greater successes in its attempts to establish Socialism in Ethiopia. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 16 Sep 81 p 12]

MESSAGE TO MEXICO--President Forbes Burnham Monday despatched a message to his Mexican counterpart Jose Lopez Portillo on the occasion of Mexico's National Day which is being celebrated today. In his message the President said: "On the occasion of your National Day, I extend to you, the government and the people of the United Mexican States, warm congratulations on my own behalf and on behalf of the Government and people of the co-operative Republic of Guyana. May the existing friendly relations between our two countries be further strengthened as we strive to utilise our efforts for the realisation of the common aspirations of both our peoples. Please accept also my best wishes for your good health and personal well being." Guyana and Mexico established diplomatic relations on March 1, 1973. The Mexican Ambassador to Guyana, Juan Antonio Merigo Aza is based in Jamaica while Guyana's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Noel Sinclair is this country's Ambassador to the oil rich Republic. (GNA) [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 16 Sep 81 p 24]



POLICE FIND--The police in Berbice have seized several articles including transmitting sets, binoculars, candles and a spent cartridge for a shot-gun from a house at Williamsburg, on the Corentyne, the Ministry of Home Affairs has said in a statement. The statement, released Tuesday said "The police in Berbice in their usual weekend anti-crime vigilance stopped a hire car driven by Wilbert Hamilton of Fyrish Road, Corentyne in which the sole passenger was Riaj Bacchus of Williamsburg, Corentyne. In the car was found certain articles which led the police to the home of Ann Madramootoo and other premises at Williamsburg, Corentyne. On these premises were found several articles including transmitting sets, binoculars, quantities of candles, spent cartridge for a shotgun and other equipment which made it necessary for the police to detain the persons in whose possession they were found for further enquiries. Documents taken away are being studied by the security forces. Enquiries into these matters were carried out on the instructions of the police administration." [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 17 Sep 81 p 9]

CSO: 3025/14

## ARTURO RENDON COMMENTS ON LACK OF UNITY IN LIBERAL PARTY

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Sep 81 p 56

[Text] Tegucigalpa--"The Liberal Party [PL] of Honduras is completely disorganized," Arturo Rendon, designated presidential candidate, said yesterday in Tegucigalpa. He added that "to close our eyes to this fact is like trying to block out the sun with one finger."

Rendon stated that "the Liberal Party is risking the clear-cut victory that we have been hoping for on 29 November."

Rendon called for realism on the part of his colleagues when he said that the Liberals must come down to earth and "take far-reaching steps to forge effective unity against its strongest adversary, the Nationalists."

He stated that a rock-ribbed unity is needed and criticized factional strife, particularly the internal decision of the Rodist Liberal Movement which, according to him, is a symptom of the poor leadership prevalent within liberal ranks.

He evinced skepticism toward the decisive victory some liberals are expecting when he stated categorically, MM "I do not think we can win a decisive victory like that expected on 29 November."

The leader said that the deep division in liberal ranks brought about by the People's Liberal Alliance (ALIPO), the Liberal Unity Front (FUL), and the internal split within the Rodist Liberal Movement was obvious to all.

Rendon stated that "these are facts that cannot be hidden from domestic and foreign public opinion. We are disorganized, but this could lead the PL to adopt a more courageous attitude, such as has occurred in the Department of Copan."

According to the presidential candidate, the grassroots in that department are ready. "We have worked out slates that furnish a worthy example and are made of people of merit from both the Rodists and the ALIPO who enjoy the unanimous support of the liberals of that area."

9015

CSO: 3010/16



## ACQUISITION OF OIL REFINERY NOT ADVISABLE

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Sep 81 p 5

[Report on interview with Ruben Mondragon, minister of economy, by reporter Mirta ✓ Torres de Mejia on 15 September 1981, aboard a Honduran Air Force aircraft en route from Mexico City to Tegucigalpa, "The Purchase of the Refinery is not Good for the Country"]

[Text] Tegucigalpa--"The problem of the refinery is as follows: they have antiquated equipment. Even when they process Saudi Arabian oil, which is \$2.00 cheaper than Venezuelan and Mexican crude, they lose money, according to what they have said in the past. Also, they have stated that they obtain profits by importing refined products since they get gasoline at prices that are very low in relation to the prices prevailing on the Honduran market," Ruben Mondragon, minister of economy, stated Tuesday while returning from Mexico with other members of the official delegation sent by President Policarpo Paz Garcia.

The exclusive interview for LA PRENSA was conducted aboard a Honduran Air Force flight by our colleague, Mirta Torres de Mejia.

Mondragon gave this answer to the question on what was the actual problem of the Texaco refinery and the situation with regard to constantly rising prices.

"In the case of diesel oil, prices are more or less the same in the foreign and domestic markets. But in the case of the bunker the price is higher than the domestic market because we are subsidizing the latter. They want to obtain an adequate return on investment, but they have told us that this return is at such and such a rate, which we feel is very high considering their investment. Consequently, they try in every way possible to avoid importing Mexican and Venezuelan crude oil and import only refined products," the minister of economy explained.

And he added, "Actually, they buy refined products in dollars and sell them in lempiras and logically these lempiras are converted to dollars so that they can continue buying with dollars, but given the financial situation of this country, and not only Honduras but all the countries of Central America, we have requested them to prepare a plan for payment in dollars."

Elaborating on the plan for payment in dollars, the minister of economy explained that "actually, an agreement was reached with the Central Bank of Honduras to pay approximately \$38.5 million, the Central Bank agreed to pay \$1.5 million twice a month, with an initial payment of \$5 million. This agreement stipulates that the refinery must provide schedules of its purchases because besides paying them \$38

million in the manner I have described, a \$5 million initial payment, and then \$1.5 million twice a month, they are making purchases every 20 days on the order of \$7 million and they have not sent us their schedules. In order for them to be paid in dollars, the refinery must present the invoices or final contracts.

"They can also present tentative contracts and with these tentative contracts the Central Bank can continue giving them what they require."

Asked whether there was ever an intention to nationalize the refinery, Mondragon stated that "there are some officials in the government who feel the refinery should be nationalized, but I am not one of them, because, as I told you, the refinery's equipment is inadequate and now obsolete. If the government nationalized the refinery, we would have to pay for it and undoubtedly we would have to pay for it in dollars; if we had that refinery and imported crude oil, we would lose money, if the data given us is correct. I feel it would not be in the interest of the nation. Rather, it is better to seek an agreement regarding return on investment so that they can continue importing crude oil and obtain a 30 percent return on the oil contracts."

[Question] Will there be an increase in prices in the near future?

[Answer] "No. I stated there would be no price increase this year. We are searching for the necessary means by which the refinery can realize a satisfactory profit for the last 4 months of the year without a price increase. Price increases are only justified when OPEC or the international market increases the price of crude."

[Question] Did your visit to Mexico achieve anything positive?

[Answer] "I was certain we would be successful from the moment I left Honduras because I know the Mexicans. I know their idiosyncrasies. We did not go to ask for money because Mexico is actually an importer of money. They have a very large foreign debt. We went to ask them for something they can actually give us--their market. In other words, that they open the Mexican market for Honduran products.

We asked Mexico for assistance in the petroleum field, for training and scholarships for Hondurans to specialize in that field in Mexico.

We went to request credit lines to finance the purchase of their equipment and raw materials and above all agricultural loans for the National Development Bank (BANADESA). We also asked for technical assistance in the mining field. They have granted us all of this, so that everything we requested of Mexico has been granted us. Thus, I feel the visit was a success."

With respect to future projects, Mondragon said that although he may not be minister of economy in 1982, he had to prepare new projects. For instance, one such project is the construction of oil storage tanks with at least a 2-month capacity. Another project the minister intends to get started is the building of a gasohol plant to produce 36 million gallons a year. This would permit a reduction of 10 percent in fuel imports and represent savings of some 35 million lempiras in foreign exchange.

9015

CSO: 3010/16

## BRIEFS

ARMY COUNTRY'S MAIN SUPPORT--Tegucigalpa--Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, president of the republic, reaffirmed over the weekend that the armed forces constitute the real mainstay of the Honduran state. Paz Garcia mentioned the military power in the country when he opened the commemorative ceremony of the 17th anniversary of the Second Infantry Battalion, which has its headquarters in Tamara, Francisco Morazan. He also said that the welfare and security of the nation is based on the soldiers' heroic devotion, as has been demonstrated throughout history. At the celebration a demonstration was again made of the military aid which has been received in the last few years as modern military equipment, which exemplifies the capability the country has acquired in that field, was displayed to those present. The troops made a series of demonstrations of the equipment and of their combat training which guarantees us a defense in the face of any problem which might confront the republic in unstable times such as we now have. [Text] [San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Apr 81 p 5] 9204

NICARAGUAN VIOLATIONS OF TERRITORIAL WATERS--Tegucigalpa--Sandinist patrol boats violate Honduran territorial waters a minimum of 4 times a day, a Navy spokesman charged yesterday. The spokesman said there have been no armed encounters the past few days between Honduran and Nicaraguan coast guard patrol boats but violations of territorial waters "have begun to occur again almost every day." The duty officer of the Amapala Naval Base indicated that Honduran patrol boats have intensified their patrols of territorial coastal waters in order to prevent violations of national sovereignty. "The only problem presented by these foreign incursions, apart from the violation of our territorial waters, is the concern the Sandinists have caused among domestic fishermen who venture far out from the coast," the source added. He said that relations with Salvadoran naval forces are more cordial to the extent than when a Nicaraguan patrol boat violates Honduran waters, the Salvadorans alert the Honduran vessels. Finally, the source said that clashes with the Nicaraguan Navy have diminished, but that anxiety among Honduran fishermen is still present. [Text] [San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Sep 81 p 3] 9015

CSO: 3010/16

## EDITORIAL ASSESSES VENEZUELAN AID, CARIBBEAN BASIN PLAN

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Sep 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Seaga and Venezuela"]

[Text]

The 48-hour official visit made to Caracas last weekend by Prime Minister Seaga appears to have been a major success. In addition to a U.S.\$25 million balance-of-payments support which Jamaica is to receive from the Venezuelan Investment Fund as a result of the Prime Minister's discussions with President Herrera Campins the joint Jamaica-Venezuela communique re-affirmed the strength of bilateral relations and the mutual understanding on the important international and regional issues. A consolidation of the increasing co-operation between Jamaica and Venezuela is, as Mr. Seaga has asserted, very critical to the strength of the Caribbean Basin, a position reflected in the joint communique.

With Jamaica's current account deficit deteriorating further by over 42 percent in 1980 and energy imports and debt servicing accounting for over 47 percent of exchange earnings the balance-of-payments support should help to ease the strain on the reserves. But what of the conditions under which the Government will have access to the credit? A press release issued on the return of Prime Minister Seaga stated that

the money will be deposited in the Bank of Jamaica while the conditions are to be determined later. It may be that the mutual understanding between the two Governments extends to the fact that with a legacy of bulging short-term liabilities Jamaica cannot afford additional short-term loans which will only aggravate the already severe pressure on repayment.

The accord on an early formulation of a Caribbean Basin Development programme forms another high point of the discussions between the two heads of Government. Venezuela, as President Herrera stated in a banquet speech in honour of Prime Minister Seaga, is enthusiastic about an expansion of economic and developmental co-operation with the countries of the Basin. This enthusiasm has been demonstrated in Venezuela's rise to the position of largest aid donor (U.S.\$4.0 billion since 1975) to the region. In the words of Venezuela's Minister of Energy, that country's oil resources is a "main stabiliser" of the democratic system, which reinforces the influence of that country in any formulation of regional economic and financial priorities.

While Venezuela, in spite of its substantial petrodollars, has its own social problems with unemployment estimated at 12 per cent, co-operation with CARI-COM could mean immense mutual benefits. The possibilities for greater trade links open the way for Jamaican producers to penetrate the Venezuelan market which imports over 50 per cent of food supplies. The prospects of expansion of co-operation in the area of alumina also appears hopeful. These are prospects with inestimable economic pay-offs which, it is to be hoped, will be developed with great vigour.

We believe that the long-term economic co-operation desired in the Caribbean Basin is achievable, once there is a will on the part of the participating Governments; the recent meeting in Nassau of the American Secretary of State along with the Foreign Ministers of Canada, Mexico and Venezuela, suggests a ray of hope. The discussions between Prime Minister Seaga and President Herrera have served to increase regional expectations. At the domestic level the reactivation of the Jamaica-Venezuela Mixed Commission is vital, for the private sector must have a pivotal role in the investment thrust which must be a main element in the economic co-operation.

CSO: 3025/15



## SEAGA PROMISES SHAKE-UP OF THREE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

## Dissatisfaction With Performance

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

**A "SEVERE SHAKE-UP" of the Trade Administrator, Collector General and Income Tax Departments is coming because of "grave dissatisfaction" with certain areas of performance within those departments, Prime Minister Edward Seaga said yesterday.**

Stating in a press release issued from Jamaica House that the "grave dissatisfaction" had been the basis of serious complaints by the public, the Prime Minister said that he had on more than one occasion warned these departments that the misconduct of certain officials would not be tolerated by the Government.

He had reached the end of his patience, the Prime Minister said, and did not propose to issue further warnings. As a result a severe shake-up of these departments would now follow and intensive computerisation introduced to speed up the work as well as to detect those officers engaged in misconduct in their duties.

Mr. Seaga's announcement was made in a report by him of a "monthly break-

fast meeting" Thursday with representatives of the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica. In the statement the Prime Minister said he had advised the PSOJ that import licences issued this year were 50% more than last year and that it was proposed to change the system of allocation of licences for imports in 1982 on the basis of computer study now being done to determine the precise level of imports of each importer.

## FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT:

"Prime Minister Edward Seaga has advised the P.S.O.J. that import licences issued so far this year total US\$2038 million as compared with US\$1355 million last year, an increase of 50 percent. This statement was made by the Prime Minister on the occasion of the monthly breakfast meeting with the P.S.O.J. on Thursday morning.

"As a result, Mr. Seaga said, imports this year from January to August totalled US\$956 million as compared to US\$757 million for the same period last year, an increase of 29.7 percent.

"The ability of the Government to marshal greater foreign exchange has enabled this increase in imports to take place, Mr. Seaga advised. This has resulted in the following increases in imports by categories during January to August this year by comparison with the same period last year.

Increased Imports	
Food.....	75.3%
Other consumer goods .....	29.2%
Raw Materials.....	40.5%
Capital Goods.....	35.8%

"As can be seen, the greatest increases, apart from food, have gone to raw

materials and capital goods, which conforms with Government policy.

"Even 'No Funds' licences, he indicated, have shown an overwhelming proportion devoted to raw materials and capital goods in 1981 compared with 1980, as set out in the following increases:

Food.....	US\$26.5 million
Other Consumer Goods.....	US\$25.98 million
Petroleum.....	US\$9.04 million
Raw Materials.....	US\$67.09 million
Capital Goods .....	US\$66.73 million.

"Notwithstanding these increases, the Prime Minister said there were still a number of firms seeking additional licences for imports of raw materials this year. As a result, instructions had been given to the Trade Administrator's Department and the Bank of Jamaica to issue the overwhelming proportion of the remaining US\$90 million in lines of credit not yet allocated, to the purchase of raw materials.

## CHANGE PROPOSED

"The Prime Minister advised the P.S.O.J. that it was proposed to change the system of allocation of licences for imports next year on the basis of a computer study now being done to determine the precise level of imports of each importer. He invited the P.S.O.J. to make recommendations to be considered for devising the new system as well as make proposals on allocations of foreign exchange to each category of imports for next year.

"The Prime Minister also spoke to the P.S.O.J. of his grave dissatisfaction with certain areas of performance within the



Trade Administrator, Collector General and Income Tax Departments which have been the basis of serious complaints by the public.

"HE SAID HE HAD ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION warned these departments that the misconduct of certain officials would not be tolerated by his Government.

"He had reached the end of his patience, the Prime Minister said, and did not propose to issue further warnings. As a result a severe shake-up of

these Departments would now follow and intensive computerisation introduced to speed up the work as well as to detect those officers engaged in misconduct in their duties.

"These departments, the Prime Minister said, have always had a good history of service despite difficult conditions, and he was not going to allow the record of the departments or the Government to be prejudiced by any group within the organizations."

#### Initial Personnel Actions

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 26 Sep 81 p 1

[Excerpts]

THE PROMISED SHAKE-UP in three top Government Departments began yesterday with the appointment of a new Acting Trade Administrator, a new Commissioner of Income Tax, and the transfer of the Collector General to the Ministry of Mining and Energy.

The new Acting Trade Administrator is Mr. Hugh Bonnick, a senior director in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce; appointed Income Tax Commissioner is Mr. Winston Clarke who was promoted from Deputy Commissioner. There has been no appointment as yet to succeed Mr. Lionel Lawrence as Collector General.

Industry and Commerce Minister Douglas Vaz announced yesterday that Mr. Bonnick had been appointed to replace Mr. Vernon Allen as Acting Trade Administrator. Mr. Allen will proceed on leave of absence, pending a new assignment at the end of the leave, the Minister said in a press release.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED yesterday that the new Income Tax Commissioner is Mr. Winston Clarke who will succeed Mr. U. J. Daley. The spokesman said that Mr. Daley had applied for pre-retirement leave which was granted. He will go on leave on October 1, prior to retirement from the Civil Service.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CONFIRMED that Mr. Lawrence, former

Collector General, was transferred to the Ministry of Mining and Energy with special duties in the administration of the Bauxite Levy. Mr. Lawrence reported for duties at the Ministry yesterday.

In announcing Mr. Bonnick's appointment as Acting Trade Administrator, Minister Vaz said that he saw his appointment as the "first step that needed to be undertaken to implement other urgent wide-ranging reforms needed in the operations of the Trade Administrator's Department."

## MINISTER WARNS 'BIG MAN' ON SELFISHNESS, EXPLOITATION

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

KINGTON, Jamaica, Sunday (CAN) — The so-called "big man" in Jamaican society has been warned by local Government Minister Pearnel Charles that he will not be allowed to exploit the poor and engage in corruption.

In Jamaica, the term "big man" refers to leaders in the economic and decision-making sphere and is often used in a pejorative sense by leftwing politicians.

In a speech to members of the Jamaica Shipping Association, Mr. Charles said that citizens were beginning to query the appearance here of millions of dollars worth of luxury goods which were not brought in by small buyers.

It was a type of selfishness and lack of concern for the poor by the "big man", Mr. Charles said, which would not find favour with the public or with the government.

Said the Minister: "This type of selfishness and exploitation will breed more (Peoples' National Party Leader) Michael Manley and (marxist Workers

Party of Jamaica General Secretary) Trevor Munroes in the country."

The "Big man" who was caught engaging in corrupt activities would be penalised, Mr. Charles warned.

Mr. Charles' rightwing Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) came to power nearly a year ago after ousting Mr. Manley's Democratic Socialist Administration.

The Labour Party is usually associated with the Jamaican middle and upper classes and a recent opinion survey here showed that only 36 per cent of the people interviewed felt that the party cared about the interest of the poor, compared with 54 per cent for the PNP.

Mr. Charles has been clearly attempting to erase this perception and recent speeches by him have emphasised the government's commitment to all classes.

He has also been warning the rich that they must show concern for the poor lest tension develop in the society.

CSO: 3025/16

## DEVELOPMENTS IN IMPORTS, EXPORTS SUBJECT OF ATTENTION

Shearer Report to JMA

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Sep 81 pp 1, 20

[Text]

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hugh Shearer, has informed exporters that all import debts scheduled for payment up to the middle of June this year, had been paid.

Mr. Shearer, told the annual general meeting of the Jamaica Exporters' Association yesterday that payments had been achieved against the background that at the end of March there were total arrears of US\$79.2 million — US\$52.7 million was for imports and US\$26.2 million for other costs such as interest, dividend, education, maintenance and such other charges. That balance had been reduced to US\$49.5 million, of which US\$26.3 million was for exports.

Mr. Shearer also issued a warning to those importers who used licences to import illegal goods. He said: "The Government acknowledges and applauds the response of all those businessmen who have put foreign exchange allocations to productive use. The Government does not appreciate nor applaud those who use licences to import illegal goods and thereby sabotage the economic recovery programme. We are taking action to stamp out that offensive practice wherever and whoever. When you hear howls of protest and orchestrated criticism you will know why."

EARLIER MR. SHEARER summed up export activity since January this year to show that for the period January to July, domestic exports totalled \$1.079 million or some \$45 million more than the amount for the same period last year.

Exports to the CARICOM from January to August this year, showed a total of US\$38,057,805 compared with US\$32,234,160 for the same period in 1980 — an increase of US\$5,323,645 or roughly 18 percent. "There has been a steady increase of export earnings from CARICOM since June this year", he said.

However, Mr. Shearer continued, happy as the Government was to be able to record this increase in export earnings, "we must resolve to improve on that increase so that the wide trade gap may be narrowed. We must produce more so that we may purchase our goods, drugs, raw materials, spare parts, machinery, consumer goods from money which we have earned not borrowed. That must be our goal."

## WEAKNESS

One of the weaknesses in the statistics at this time, he said, was the unavailability of information on volume of products to each destination to determine the basis of the increased export earnings — whether it was based on increased prices or on increased volume or a combination of both. In the national interest, both statistics were needed.

While Government recognized that there was demand for more foreign exchange for raw materials, spares and equipment than was available, it also found that some of the lines of credit were not fully used. At the same time, demand for more foreign exchange for raw materials, spares and equipment were still being made "although the records show substantial increase in foreign exchange availability this year over the same period last year."

AS A RESULT OF new financing arrangements made, imports of raw materials had increased by 53 per cent from January to June compared with the same period last year. In dollar terms, this represented some \$542 million worth of licences.

In a sense, it was encouraging that demand for funds for raw materials, spares and equipment were in excess of supply, because it was evidenced that the manufacturers and exporters want to participate in the economic recovery programme and were gearing themselves for such participation.

"We interpret the increased demand for foreign exchange to mean that the businessmen want to put factories into full production, recall work staff who were laid off early last year because of the economic down-turn, expand existing businesses and invest in new fields to produce more goods, employ more people and earn more for the country. This is a positive encouraging response for us, and for the country a positive signal of return of confidence," Mr. Shearer said.

### GOOD USE

It was at this point of his speech that the Deputy Prime Minister said that Government recognized the need for more foreign exchange for productive use, and went on to state: "It must be borne in mind however, that at the end of March there were total arrears of US\$79.2m of which US\$52.7m was for imports and the balance of US\$26.2m for other costs such as interest, dividend, education, maintenance and such other charges. That balance has been reduced to US\$49.5m of which US\$26.3m is for imports. I am pleased to say that all import debts scheduled for payment up to the middle of June this year have been paid by this country."

He urged exporters to make greater use of opportunities for marketing, especially in the various markets for which preferences had been negotiated such as the European market under the Lome Convention, and the United States market through the Generalized Scheme of Preferences. There was a long list of items which could be produced for these markets and capable of production here. There were, in addition, a list of 27 products which Jamaica had submitted of mainly agricultural products, for inclusion for preference treatment under the US GSP.

He called for examination of the National Export Plan with its possibilities for non-traditional exports. This category had grown over the years and at present accounted for about 20 per cent of export earnings. It had been

identified as a sector with the capacity for rapid expansion for the generation of foreign exchange earnings. In some categories, projected compound growth for the period 1981-83 was as high as 44.8%.

### ISOLATION

Among the areas of non-traditional exports which they could handle, he said, were processed foods, beverages and tobacco, garments, furniture, plastics, footwear, electrical appliances, building products, minerals, paper products and petroleum products.

Finally, Mr. Shearer said that the export industry could not be seen in isolation from the rest of the economy. It was both vital for its recovery and to a certain extent, depended on the economy for its survival. He then appealed to them to play an active part in investment, whether in joint ventures or otherwise.

They should pay attention to proper feasibility studies for investment and production, should pay satisfactory prices to farmers and provide incentives to their workers. He urged them to explore joint venture propositions for international markets and to pay full attention constantly to quality and presentation of goods for the market. Also, they should take steps to expand training facilities for staff at all levels, bearing in mind that competition in the market-place was stiff for consumer purchases.

THEY SHOULD AIM TO BE COMPETITIVE with their CARICOM partners as also with other Third World countries who were competing in the international market and had access to the same preferences.

Mr. Shearer concluded with an appeal for exporters to build up good, healthy relations with their workers, and to work out incentive payment schemes with Trade Union representatives, using acceptable norms.

The Deputy Prime Minister was given a standing ovation. He was introduced by the outgoing President of the association, Mr. Prakash Varwani, who earlier delivered the presidential address.

## Export Development Fund

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

The Export Development Fund (EDF) has received additional resources of US\$36 million, as a result of a new loan agreement between the Government of Jamaica and the World Bank, the Bank of Jamaica said in a news release yesterday.

US\$22 million of this amount represents a second tranche to purchase raw materials and spare parts. US\$4 million is to be used for rehabilitation of the Banana industry, and the remaining US\$10 million is to be used for a medium-term financing window for the purchase of capital equipment and permanent working capital for inventories.

The disbursements for the purchase of capital equipment, the release stated, represent a new lending window in the E.D.F. The maximum period of the medium-term financing will be four years, including a one year moratorium. The interest rate will initially be 15 per cent, but this will be reviewed periodically by the E.D.F., in consultation with the World Bank.

**THE E.D.F. WAS ESTABLISHED IN MAY, 1979**, as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank of Jamaica, and is managed by the Jamaica Export Credit Insurance Corporation (J.E.C.I.C.). The fund is a revolving fund currency foreign exchange facility and was established to assist in the importation of raw materials, spare parts and components needed by Jamaican firms for incorporation into export products.

Initially, the resources of the fund were derived from a World Bank Loan of US\$30 million. Subsequently, the resources were supplemented by an I.A.D.B. loan of US\$7.5 million. These resources have now been fully committed.

The revolving nature of the E.D.F. helps to assure that the Fund will be self-sustaining, and a reliable and growing source of foreign exchange to cover the import needs of the non-traditional export sector, the BOJ news release said.

## Raw Materials Imports

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Sep 81 p 19

[Text]

Raw material imports by the manufacturing sector during the first six months of this year amounted to U.S. \$268 million, or less than half of the U.S. \$600 million, for which licences were issued by the Administration since the beginning of the year.

The figure was also U.S. \$132 million less than the minimum of U.S. \$400 which the Jamaica Manufacturers' Association had recommended in November last year as the level below which raw material imports should not fall within the first six months of this year.

This information emerged in the monthly statement, by the president of the JMA, Mr. Anthony Williams, to Wednesday's monthly meeting of the JMA's board of directors in Kingston and during discussions which followed.

Mr. Williams said that when one subtracts the figures for raw materials for the bauxite industry, fertilizer, etcetera, from the U.S. \$268 million, it is clear that a less than desirable amount of raw materials for the remainder of the sector was imported in the first six months of 1981", said Mr. Williams.

The JMA president recalled that an economic analysis made by the association in July, pointed to "a serious situation" with regard to licences and financing to these because of the very tight foreign exchange situation. Early last month, he said, the association was advised that provision had been made for U.S. \$15 million to be utilized for the issuance of new cash licences and U.S. \$39 million for open account licences. The association was not, however, aware that the US\$15 million had been put in place.

During subsequent discussion of this point, a board member, Mr. Clive Morin, said it seemed that the U.S. \$15 million did not any more exist, for the Minister had informed the association that it had been used to import sugar — "a contingency which had not been bargained for", he said.

#### **Secure credit**

So far as the provision for the U.S.\$39 million for open account licences was concerned, the JMA president said that in order to utilize this open account provision, importers were

being asked to secure credit terms from suppliers for payment in June to September 1982.

"There are few manufacturers who are able to get these credit terms. I am appealing for a provision of U.S. \$15 million to be put in place to issue new cash licences. This U.S. \$15 million provision is not a new idea since it was in fact promised a month ago. The need is even greater now since so many more reports have been coming to us especially from small manufacturers of their inability to produce individual licences for raw materials valuing U.S. \$20,000 and

less. It is not necessary for me to remind of the grave implications for our workers and ourselves."

Another JMA board member, Mr. Peter Blake, supported the President's point, adding that many manufacturers had no raw materials to make goods for the upcoming Christmas season.

CSO: 3025/15



## BRIEFS

HAITIAN MISSION--Kingston, Jamaica, Saturday (CANA)--Haiti has stationed its first Ambassador in Kingston, upgrading its diplomatic representation here from that of a Consular Officer. The Ambassador, Pierre Pompiee, the first named to Jamaica, has already presented his credentials to Governor General Florizel Glasspole. The rightwing Duvalier regime has been attempting to gain wider acceptance in the Caribbean, and earlier this year when Jamaica's Junior Foreign Minister Neville Gallimore, visited Haiti the Press there said the Haitian Government was looking to Jamaica in this regard. Jamaica's affairs in Haiti are conducted by an Honorary Consul. A Foreign Ministry source said that Jamaica had no immediate plans to upgrade its representation in Port Au Prince, mainly because of economic constraints. [Text] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 Sep 81 p 3]

SUGAR LOSSES--Kingston, Wed. (CANA)--The Jamaica sugar industry lost \$80 million because of the big shortfall in targeted output for this year, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Astil Sangster, has said. The pre-crop forecast was for sugar production of 260,000 long tons, nearly 20,000 more than last year, but final output was a mere 201,000 tons. Mr Sangster did not give the projected earnings from the industry nor a breakdown of the loss. But he told sugar growers that in addition to the direct \$80 million shortfall the island had to import 12,000 tons of refined and 6,000 tons of brown sugar. Jamaica uses about 105,000 tons of sugar a year, because the island had to meet its 1981 European community export quota of 125,000 tons, sugar had to be imported to fill the breach created by the low production this year. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 17 Sep 81 p 5]

UNION WORK FOR MANLEY--The National Executive Council of the People's National Party, at a meeting at the Kingston Intercontinental Hotel last week Sunday unanimously supported the decision of the President of the Party and Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Michael Manley, to resume trade union activities. A resolution passed by the NEC said that the government of the PNP under the leadership of Mr. Manley in its eight and a half years in office, "more than any other in our history, passed laws to expand and protect the rights of workers". It said that he had served with distinction in the trade union movement at home and in the Caribbean between 1952 and 1972, and the NEC of the People's National Party endorsed and supported the decision of the Party Leader to resume active trade union work. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 21 Sep 81 p 11]

VENEZUELAN VISAS--As Jamaica continues to foster closer tourism links with the Republic of Venezuela, the government has now made it easier for Venezuelans to enter this country. On September 8, the Ministry of National Security and Justice waived the visa requirement for Venezuelan citizens who enter Jamaica as tourists. Venezuelans with valid passports are able to visit the island for a period not exceeding 14 days, and should hold a return ticket whether by sea or air. A passenger in transit should possess a ticket to some other destination. While in Jamaica, tourists are not allowed to take up employment, conduct any business or attend any educational institutions. VIASA, the national airline of Venezuela, resumed scheduled weekly flights to Kingston in February of this year and in July increased the flights to twice weekly into Montego Bay only. In the meantime, the Jamaica Tourist Board, in an effort to prepare Jamaican tourism workers to deal with non-English speaking visitors, is running its language training programme in Spanish as well as German at Turtle Beach Towers, in Ocho Rios. The programme is scheduled to begin in the Montego Bay area in October.--JTB. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Sep 81 p 2]

MINERALS FOR VENEZUELA--Venezuela has been identified as a potential market for a number of industrial minerals found in abundance in Jamaica. This was stated by Mr. Simon Rodriquez, chief geologist in the Mineral Resources Branch of the Venezuelan Ministry of Mining, during his presentation to the first session of the Industrial Minerals Symposium being held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston. Speaking on mineral deposits in Venezuela, he said that Venezuela was in the process of building a steel mill and an aluminium smelter, and would require large amounts of limestone. (Jamaica's limestone potential exceeds 6 billion tons.) He said that at present Venezuela imported limestone from Europe for the cement industry, as deposits found in Venezuela were not in sufficient quantities or were located in national parks and could not be mined. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Sep 81 p 9]

CSO: 3025/16

## MEXICAN REPORTER DENOUNCES 'LA PRENSA'

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 26 Aug 81 p 10

[Text] Luis Gutierrez Esparza is the Mexican reporter who wrote an article on his interview with Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman which was distorted by the trans-nationals but even so was accepted as true and valid by the newspaper of infamy [LA PRENSA]. Yesterday Gutierrez sent EL NUEVO DIARIO a copy of his article "Freedom With Responsibility" which will appear today in the newspaper EL PERIODICO for which he works in Mexico, and in which he completely unmasks LA PRENSA which insists it is the victim of persecution by the Sandinist government.

This stands as a new example of proof that the wickedness of LA PRENSA is now limitless and that this newspaper will never again be the one which was founded by Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, the "Martyr of Public Freedom."

We repeat, Luis Gutierrez Esparza himself, the person LA PRENSA said was going to sign "a duly notarized statement" to prove that they had said the truth, is going to refute them and is not only going to refute them, but will reveal that the infamous newspaper attempted to bribe him.

This, then is the Revolutionary Truth, face to face with the Reactionary Lie.

With his captions we print the text of his article:

Beyond the news.

Freedom With Responsibility

By Luis Gutierrez Esparza

Individual and social rights cannot be exercised without restrictions: personal freedom, for example, ends where the freedom of another person begins; and the interests of the community, of the social conglomerate, should prevail over those of the individual. To speak, for example, of a freedom of the press that does not recognize either limits or patterns of behavior is as irresponsible and harmful as suppressing it on a whim or by means of force.

In the final analysis the media of social communication must form part of the entire development process. Their personality, their characteristics, even their form of ownership, should never be used as a pretext justifying actions and attitudes against society, the nation and justice.

It is worth pausing on these thoughts, because in Nicaragua there is a daily confrontation between the National Reconstruction Government Junta and the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), and in the final analysis the people on the one hand and the newspaper LA PRENSA, the representative and spokesman for the bourgeoisie and the reactionary forces, supported by the oligarchs, on the other hand.

The Nicaraguan Government has just suspended for 3 days publication of the newspaper LA PRENSA--it started being published again last Saturday--due to a problem which, in part, was caused by EL PERIODICO and more specifically by the undersigned. It happens that last February in New Delhi, as a special correspondent of a Mexican magazine to cover the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries, I interviewed Miguel D'Escoto, minister of foreign affairs of Nicaragua, who is a Catholic priest and an exemplary revolutionary.

Due to certain technical problems--some batteries which were almost worn out and insufficient tape--it was not possible to tape the entire interview; a part of it was recorded but was virtually inaudible and another part was only a few sounds. Several factors caused the interview not to be published at that time, and it finally appeared on the first page of EL PERIODICO on 15 August.

Though I was faithful to the substance of what Father D'Escoto said, I was not able to reconstruct word for word some of his comments; these were transmitted to the entire world by two international agencies; one of them the Spanish agency EFE to which this newspaper is subscribed. LA PRENSA of Managua printed them, flavoring them with its traditional manipulative style of yellow journalism. In view of the emphasis given by the news agencies--partial, out of context, simplistic and not very faithful to the version which appeared in EL PERIODICO--the Nicaraguan Government, in conformity with the laws in effect, warned LA PRENSA that it would be harmful to print that information. The warning, naturally was disregarded. LA PRENSA also interviewed Alfonso Robelo, Violeta Chamorro and Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo, who were mentioned in the interview. It once again fired its guns with impunity in its campaign of aggression and destabilization, in the service of the Nicaraguan ultraright and of imperialism. This was what caused the suspension which the managers of LA PRENSA are making use of to present themselves as champions and martyrs of freedom and expression.

LA PRENSA attempted by every means to compromise EL PERIODICO and me personally as elements in its counterrevolutionary work. Obviously, the response was negative for two basic reasons; in the first place, I do feel and always will feel solidarity toward the Nicaraguan people's struggle and admiration for the heroic drama of Sandinism. This newspaper, for its own part, has declared itself committed to the fight for freedom of the peoples. And, in addition, LA PRENSA's kind of journalism is the antithesis of ours; its zeal for manipulation and sensationalism and its surrender to the oligarchy and the interests of imperialism place it in the opposite trench.

What LA PRENSA printed regarding the interview with Father D'Escoto is a manipulated provocation. To give expression and prestige to the enemies of the people is one proof more of the great generosity of Sandinism; but everything has its limits, and that newspaper exceeds them with alarming frequency.

## BRIEFS

USSR DONATES VEHICLES--The USSR Ambassador, Guerman Shliapnikov, delivered yesterday, in the name of the Central Committee of the USSR All-Union Central Council, two NIVA automobiles and one bus, to the Sandinist Workers Federation. In a simple ceremony full of the spirit of solidarity and of proletarian internationalism, Ambassador Shliapnikov delivered to Lucio Jimenez, the secretary general of the CST [Sandinist Workers Federation], the keys to the NIVA automobiles and the bus. "I am grateful for the kind invitation of the Central Committee of the USSR All-Union Central Council," said Shliapnikov, "which appointed me to deliver this gift." "It is a testimony to the solidarity of the workers of the USSR with the Nicaraguan people and working class who are fighting for peace and the independence of their country, with the Sandinist National Liberation Front in the Vanguard," he added. For his part, Lucio Jimenez was thankful in the name of the Nicaraguan workers for the gift made by the Central Committee of the USSR All-Union Central Council. He invited his Soviet brother workers to visit our country and to attend the second anniversary of the Sandinist Revolution and the 20 years of the founding of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front]. [Experts] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Jun 81 p 6] 8956

CSO: 3010/1474



TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ON SIMMONDS' VISIT TO COLOMBIA

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 15 Aug 81 pp 2, 7

[Text] In response to the invitation extended by the Government of Colombia, the Premier of St. Christopher Nevis, Dr. Kennedy Simmonds, who is responsible for Foreign Affairs in his country, visited the Republic of Colombia on the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th of August, 1981, accompanied by a high level Delegation.

During his visit, Premier Kennedy Simmonds was received by the President of the Republic of Colombia, Dr. Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, and he conveyed a special greeting on behalf of the Government and the people of St. Christopher Nevis.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Dr. Carlos Lemos Simmonds, and the Premier of St. Christopher Nevis, Dr. Kennedy Simmonds, held friendly discussions on various aspects of the international politics and on the situation in the Caribbean region, with particular reference to the Eastern Caribbean, as well as to the bilateral relations between the two countries. During the discussions the similarity of perspective and the high degree of friendship existing between the two countries were clearly seen.

At the end of the visit they agreed to sign the following:

Joint Declaration

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia and the Premier of St. Christopher Nevis reaffirmed their adherence to the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations particularly those of sovereign equality of States, territorial integrity, nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states, peaceful settlement of disputes, the condemnation of the use of force or any other coercive measures in the conduct of international relations and the right to the self determination of all peoples.

They expressed their utmost respect for the principle of inviolability of treaties and they considered that this principle of International Law is the basis of peace, and an essential requirement for the realization of harmony among states, including those belonging to the Caribbean Region.

In analyzing the problems affecting the Caribbean Region they stated their concern with the disturbing developments which threaten the peace of the area. In



this regard, they expressed the desire that adequate solutions should be arrived at through peaceful means which respect the free will expressed by the people and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations.

They deplored the increasing tendency towards the use of arms in the Region and agreed that this is not consistent with the urgent needs of developing countries in the area, for whom it is indispensable, on the contrary, to secure peace and acquire the necessary resources to enable the development of their people.

The Premier of Saint Christopher Nevis emphasized the important, serious, and profoundly democratic role that Colombia is playing in the Caribbean area, and expressed his satisfaction with the approach that has been made towards the region. He pointed out that the Colombia's association with the majority of States in the Area, constitutes an additional element in the continuation of a close and harmonious relationship.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia emphasized, in his turn, the prominent role of Premier Kennedy Simmonds and in general of Saint Christopher Nevis in the Eastern Caribbean. In this regard, he underlined the importance of the recent signing of the Treaty of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States in Saint Christopher Nevis.

They reaffirmed the right of States to the utilization of the resources of the marine and submarine areas belonging to them, pursuant to the principles of International Law.

They expressed their concern over the constant increases in oil prices and the consequential effects on the economic and social development of the States in the Caribbean Region and urged the establishment of mechanisms to find a solution to this problem.

In dealing with the aspects regarding the cooperation between the two countries, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia expressed the decision of his Government to offer scientific and technical assistance to Saint Christopher Nevis in the fields contemplated by the Agreement of Scientific and Technical Cooperation signed during the visit.

In order to increase the commercial relations between the two countries, they agreed to study the early establishment of a transportation service between Colombia and the Eastern Caribbean, particularly with Saint Christopher Nevis as a fundamental factor in the development of trade and tourism between the two States.

Premier Kennedy Simmonds and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Carlos Lemos Simmonds agreed to maintain frequent consultations for the purpose of strengthening the relations between the two countries, and discussing significant developments in the Caribbean Region.

The Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs offered the Premier of Saint Christopher Nevis scholarships so that Officials of that country could pursue specialized courses due to begin next year in the Marco Fidel Suarez Institute of Colombia.

Premier Kennedy Simmonds indicated his appreciation of the offer and agreed to explore the possibilities of participating in this project.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia expressed the support of his Government for the initiative taken by Premier Kennedy Simmonds to convene the Columbus Commemoration Conference, so that the celebration of the five hundredth anniversary of Columbus' voyages to the Americas will not only constitute an honour to the memory of Christopher Columbus, but also an opportunity to embark upon a new stage in the development of cooperation between countries of the Caribbean Basin.

They underlined the fact that the discussions held in the course of the visit of Premier Kennedy Simmonds to Colombia meant an important step in the development of friendship and cooperation between the Governments and peoples of Saint Christopher Nevis and Colombia. The Premier of St. Christopher Nevis expressed, on behalf of the members of his Delegation and on his own behalf, his sincere gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Colombia for the friendly reception and for the excellent hospitality shown them during their visit, at the end of which he extended a cordial invitation to his Colombian colleague to visit Saint Christopher Nevis. The invitation was received and accepted with pleasure.

Signed in the City of Bogota on the 7th of August, 1981, in two copies in the Spanish and English languages, both texts equally authentic.

For the Government of Saint Christopher Nevis

Kennedy Simmonds, Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the Republic of Colombia

Carlos Lemos Simmonds, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

CSO: 3025/18

## SPREAD OF COMMUNISM THREATENS; LABOR CALLED SUBVERSIVE

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 15 Aug 81 p 8

[Text] A recent news report out of Antigua reflects concern over what is thought to be a dangerous prediction that the Grenada Revolution, now in its third year, can "go island-hopping."

The prediction is attributed to Mr. (?Tom) Hector, the leader of the Communist A.C.L.M., which contested the last general elections in Antigua. Mr. Hector, a regular contributor to a leading weekly newspaper in Antigua OUTLET, is said to have elaborated this thought at a recent gathering of like-minded Socialists.

The Antiguan Government is said to be regarding Mr. Hector's remarks as a possible threat, and has ordered a report to be laid before the Director of Public Prosecutions of Antigua on his advice.

Mr. Hector's words have aroused a fear which is taking root in the minds of some of the leaders of the Caribbean, that the Cuban advisers in Grenada are bent on "exporting" Revolution and subversive activity throughout the region.

This fear is shared not only by the small islands, but by the big countries like Venezuela and Colombia.

The trouble is that there is always a bunch of rejects and misfits in every country whose lust of political power can be manipulated by "revolutionaries."

Right here in this State, we have the spectacle of a defeated Labour Party, who in their frustration are not now interested in stability in the country, who are not above attacking the police force, and all of the institutionalised forces of law and order, with the object of subverting the established values of peace, order and good government.

A defeated Labour Party which desperately "predicted" the fall of the PAM/NRP Coalition in two weeks, two months, six months, and an insecure ex-Premier who could publicly vow to utterly and completely destroy his political opponents, are dangerous to this society.

Time and time again, the Opposition here has uttered threats and incitements, and have planned conspiracies and violence.

Now we hear that Opposition members (?Lee) Moore and Charlie Mills are in Antigua. Let us hope that the police and security forces are just as vigilant and watchful of these desperate people as all law abiding persons expect.

## EDITORIAL FINDS REGION'S IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM ERODING

Castries THE VOICE in English 26 Aug 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Nightmare for Region"]

[Text]

AT the dawn of the decade of the 80s, which in the Caribbean was heralded by the phenomenon of a former English colony effecting political change through armed revolt, regional politicians decided (at least verbally) that this strange event would not break up CARICOM but that the Caribbean would co-exist in "ideological pluralism."

Even though no one has successfully defined "ideological pluralism" under former United States President Jimmy Carter's Human Rights foreign policy, even the United States ambassador, then Sally Shelton, agreed to the need for "ideological pluralism" in the Caribbean.

However, the new strong arm politics of the Republican Ronald Reagan administration will not let "sleeping dogs lie," and it would appear from recent developments in the region that the several ideologies ranging from Guyana's national socialism through Barbados' democratic socialism to Grenada's Marxism will not coexist in peace.

Even so, one could argue that differences existed with the "isms" themselves and thus outsiders to the Caribbean have become confused and

therefore impatient. For surely there was a vast difference between Jamaica's democratic socialism as practised and preached under Michael Manley, and that of Barbados, under Tom Adams. Trinidad, under the late Eric Williams, of course wisely kept away from 'isms'.

All of this leads to one point — namely, that at the beginning of 1980 we in Caribbean "agreed to differ on the subject of ideology"; now in mid-1981, we are "agreeing to disagree" — and volubly.

The first hint that the concept of "ideological pluralism" within the region was not to be permitted came when the United States attached certain strings to aid to be given to Grenada and the Eastern Caribbean through the CDB. The region then stood up as one man and said "no" to the strings.

This initial unity is now showing grave signs of weakening. Very recently, Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles stated bluntly that "Grenada could have accepted Washington's strings on the aid and allowed countries which badly needed it to benefit."

This pronouncement must surely affect the tenuous harmony among CARICOM states far less among the OECS States, which have embarked on integration on very shaky beginnings.

Previously, of course, Miss Charles did not mince words on the subject of Grenada's People's Revolutionary Government which she accused of bad human rights practices, and the need to return to constitutional government. Grenada has claimed that attacks such as Miss Charles' are the work of the United States.

But if Grenada has been a source of concern, it seems from recent reports, that Guyana now presents a new problem. It has become clear with the United States veto of an IDB loan to Guyana that Washington is displeased also with policy as it emanates from Georgetown.

Thus the myth of "ideological pluralism" in the region is being exploded from without — if not within the Caribbean.

It would appear that we in the Caribbean can no longer blithely ignore the global issues which clearly are thrusting their effects upon us.

The political commentaries at the global level tell us that the super powers are bent headlong on a collision course. These predictions seem realistic taken in the light of events in the tortured Middle East, and the spectre of the United States creation of the neutron bomb.

The region cannot avoid the nightmare ahead by self-delusion or evasion of problems which stare them in the face.

CSO: 3025/18

## CENAC UNABLE TO CONTROL CONFLICTING JOSIE POLICY REMARKS

Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 5 Sep 81 p 12

[Article by Willie James]

[Excerpts]

PRIME Minister Winston Cenac is certainly no fool. He is a barrister. But there are times when even skilled barristers can become victims of their own clever devices. Cenac's administration is an adhesive device that holds on to power.

This administration has the legislative authority but is nonetheless powerless. It is ineffective as a Government to attract employment and economic development for people and State to any remarkable degree.

Moreover, any new investment that has come to this State is not as a result of Government's persuasion. Rather it is an investor's speculation that equilibrium must at some time come to St. Lucia.

As I see it, Cenac is in trouble as he seems unable to contain his Ministers.

For example, he is head of Government, yet policy statements seem to come rather freely from the loquacious Foreign Minister Peter 'Pan' Josie. And, the real danger lies here, in being unable to restrain this intractable Minister.

While Ministers of Government are allowed periodic airings to the media to articulate progress and clarify clouded issues, of individual Ministries, the Prime Minister is the sole authority to advance statements embracing the entire Government.

During the 21-month-old struggle-for-power-torn Allan Louisy-regime, the then foreign affairs Minister and Deputy Prime Minister frequently up-staged Louisy. It embarrassed the State and humiliated the Prime Minister.

Today, all the ills with which the Louisy regime was plagued are repeating themselves.

While Prime Minister Cenac is clearly leaning towards the right, his Foreign Minister Josie is clearly leaning left. It seems a diametrical position.

As I see it, if Josie's Government is left, then he should look to the left for development aid. Unfortunately, the aid of note that comes from the powerful left would be arms. This is not economic development.

And lately he seems preoccupied with Maurice Bishop's Grenada. He seems to be Grenada's Ambassador to St. Lucia.

Vigorously, he defends Bishop's posture in not holding general elections. He insists that the democratic process is not necessarily the best. Is that saying that he is not for calling elections in St. Lucia also?

Meanwhile, what is the Prime Minister's reaction to Josie's indiscretions? A Cenac spokesman intimated:

"The Prime Minister has spoken to Josie about his rashness but he defended his action by saying that the Foreign Affairs Ministry is one of his portfolios therefore he talks when the occasion demands it."

This could be interpreted to mean that no one can stop Josie from issuing government policy statements and holding press conferences. Not even the Prime Minister.

Again there is danger here. And Cenac is not unaware of it. But he can do nothing about it. He can neither fire nor discipline Josie. If he does he courts the collapse of his Government and the inevitable elections at which they are all sure to suffer defeat.

This tenuous one-man majority government must make heading such a government bothersome for Cenac, who can do much better as Prime Minister than Allan Louisy did.

His problem of running his Government is the rightists' investors uncertainty over St. Lucia, while Josie's leftists' pronouncements will not lessen that uncertainty. Josie is now the sole leftist element that taints the Government with that dubious direction. It's a paradox but he appears to be enjoying it.

As it relates to Grenada, it would be a clarification of the St. Lucia Government position, if Cenac issues a policy statement. And one does not expect an inane cliché as: "We are not interfering with Grenada's internal affairs". That is a negative escapist view.

We can't avoid Grenada which shares the same institutions as we do.

It is now incumbent upon the Prime Minister to refute or associate himself with his Foreign Minister's statement on the Grenada elections and other leftist breathings.



## BRIEFS

UK AID--Britain is to make EC\$5 million available to St. Lucia for development projects over the next year. This has been revealed by Keith Woolverton, Head of the British Development Division for the Caribbean. He said the programmes envisaged included one to reduce the island's dependence on the banana industry by making funds available to help increase St. Lucia's coconut production. There was also the possibility of developing less traditional crops or the expansion of others, including the cocoa industry, mangoes and avocados which could fetch good prices in the European markets. Another aspect of this aid package, he said, was the development of a proper water system for St. Lucia, low cost housing schemes and a new primary school. [Text] [Castries THE VOICE in English 26 Aug 81 p 1]

NEW 'PEACE COMMITTEE'--Castries, St. Lucia, Sept. 23 (CANA)--A new organisation has been launched here with its main objective being to investigate and generate public discussion and debate on all matters affecting the territorial integrity of Caribbean nations. The St. Lucia Peace Committee, as it is known, is headed by city Barrister Hilderd Deterville. Its formation was prompted by "recent developments that appear to seriously threaten peace and stability of Caribbean nations and beyond," the committee said in its first public statement. The statement said that the Peace Committee has three central areas of concern: the preservation of territorial integrity as an inviolate principle, independent and proper development and use of Caribbean resources and the monitoring of possible areas of threat to peace in the Caribbean basin and beyond. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 26 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/20

## UPM ATTACKS 'MILITIA' UNIT AS VIGILANTE FORCE

## Gonsalves Press Conference

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 14 Aug 81 p 1

[Text]

A vigilante force under the imposing title of the people's Militia is being formed with the approval of persons at the highest levels within the government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This was the opening statement made by Dr. Ralph Gonsalves at a press conference at the United People's Movement headquarters on Monday last.

This vigilante force, Gonsalves said is made up of about twelve persons including people with great familiarity in arms and who have met on about three or four occasions. Their main aim is to train and arm a sizeable contingent of faithful foot soldiers. The leadership of this vigilante force, said Gonsalves has three common elements: they come from within the business community, they are Labour Party fanatics and they are drawn mainly though not solely from a tightly knit social group within the Villa and Indian Bay area.

Gonsalves said that, the purpose of this force is to preserve the Labour Party government in power at all

costs including use of violence and to rival the lawfully constituted police force which is looked upon as an unreliable defence unit by the self appointed vigilantes.

He stated that, establishment of such a force, which he termed to be illegal, is a serious threat to peace, democracy and tranquility in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In his view the mortal danger to our society comes presently from such groups and not from phantom. Such a force is subversive of the constitution and a fundamental threat to law and order the UPM executive declared.

He noted, "As the way forward the Cato government has chosen the path of repression and creeping dictatorial rule, and as the government becomes incapable of solving the basic social and economic problems so has its undemocratic and bullying behaviour become more intensified."

All what is being heard from the government is the talk of repression with appropriate hard line policies such as training

security police personnel in the military dictatorship of South Korea, the increase of military and intelligence surveillance of the local population, the strengthening of the political wing of the security forces, the summoning of foreign troops to our soil, the introduction of undemocratic legislation to crush trade unions and muzzle opposition parties and now the promotion of this illegal vigilante force to booster its decaying over-rule," Gonsalves explained.

He stated that the number one political question in our country today concerns the preservation of basic democratic rights and made an appeal to the government to reverse its trends before it is too late.

Dr. Gonsalves observed that since the announcement of the attempted coup by the acting Prime Minister, no one has been arrested and charged though the net of the criminal lies sufficiently wide for people to be apprehended charged and jailed.

On the question of identifying the people associated with this force, Dr. Gonsalves declared that the U.P.M. is not prepared to call names though some had been indicated to the police. He said however that it was not in their place to identify names but to pass on the information to the police and to inform the country about the gravity of the situation.

Gonsalves said that, he believes that there is a link between the alleged coup spoken about by the acting Prime Minister and the formation of this vigilante force. Also in his view the coup is linked to an attempt to resurrect the Essential Services Amendment Bill and the Public Order and Public Safety Bill. He felt that the vigilante force is a form of a substitute to provide law and order (as seen by the Labour Party) if the Police Force again goes on strike and if such demonstrations as previously, happens again in the streets protesting the above mentioned Bills.

"The talk of such a force emerged when the police went on a sick-out. At the

time of the Union Island uprising in 1979, there were certain individuals who took it upon themselves to offer support of a military kind to the government and they were complimented by the Prime Minister," stated Dr Gonsalves.

The U P M is propagandising on the question, informing the community and will use all lawful means to see that the vigilante force does not come into operation," Gonsalves concluded.

#### THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

The Vincentian sought to obtain a release for publication from one of the people who had been persistently rumoured to be one of the leaders and originators of the so-called vigilante group. The person, whose identity cannot be

disclosed, was loath to supply information as the group has not been finalised and "cannot be until the permission of government is obtained". However, it was admitted that recent events -- before the alleged coup -- had prompted certain concerned citizens to consider the formation of a non political volunteer group, ready to protect their country and their property from outside intervention or inside subversion and betrayal.

The volunteers, as envisaged, would come from "every walk of life", from every town and district of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It was explained

#### THE POLICE CONSIDER ISSUE

Meanwhile the Police went into a conference yesterday to discuss, what one spokesman said was a wide range of issues confronting them.

One of the main issues was the reported establishment of a vigilante Force name the people's militia. The Government denies any knowledge of the so-called people's militia.

The police also expects to consider what they will do to force government -- into making them a more acceptable wages offer. They are said to be dissatisfied with not getting a three hundred dollars tax free duty allowance.

#### Editorial Opposition

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 21 Aug 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Non Government Defence Force Won't Work"]

[Text]

The news of the spearheading of the establishment of a defence force by a group of private individuals has caused a great deal more anxiety to Vincentians than the story of an alleged coup, as far as this paper can make out.

It is easy to see the reason for this. To arm a non-government section to protect the community - whether you call them vigilantes, militia or volunteers - is to provide an opportunity for the use of arms in conflicts between two groups, both of which legitimately carry arms.

If it is felt that the police cannot protect the community from criminals because they are too few, the logical thing would seem to be to increase the size of the police force, or to establish an auxiliary arm.

If it is believed that a group to protect the nation from external aggression is required, then the members of that group should be appointed by the country's government - whether they are paid or not - and be strictly servants of the state, subject to the dictates of official authority. They should be part of an overall plan for the country's defence, involving police and any other armed units.

If in fact the reason behind the force is mistrust of the existing police and a desire to have protection against the

possible defection ensured, then Prime Minister Milton Cato should take a leaf out of the book of his Dominican counterpart Eugenia Charles, and disarm the lawmen as she did her army, before they can turn their guns in the wrong direction.

To us it seems a bad place the protection of the nation in hand other than a national body.

We are not prepared to argue at this moment about the composition of the force. Any force that gets the nod to operate outside the established security forces of a nation is, we think, ill conceived and misplaced. We want neither the English Wars of the Roses, the American Civil War, nor the conflicts between the Liberation Groups within both Zimbabwe and Angola to be repeated in our little islands.

Once there is a channel paved with arms to disunity and things can happen. Unity in the use of arms is very important in the life of a nation, if that nation aims to hold on to democracy.

When we say unity in the use of arms we mean a common will, to protect the country against a common enemy, under the guidance of a democratic government, strong enough to take full responsibility for its citizens' security, without fear or favour, and confident in the bulwark of a united nation behind it.

A government cannot do everything. The people must support it and in many cases show initiative. But in the matter of security the role of the individual can only be effective, efficient and responsible, if it is part of an overall pattern. We cannot have pockets of power, with the ability to take the law into their own hands and disrupt the 'tranquility' of the country.

Was it not out of determination for a group to defend, what its member doubtless regarded as their divine right, to superintend, that the Klu Klux Klan was born?

As we see it, socialism is unimpeachable.

If democracy is its keynote. But inserting the word Democracy or Democratic with a capital D into the name of a country or political ideology does not alter totalitarianism. When we speak of democratic socialism, we mean just that: Socialism that respects the democratic rights of individual. The term Social Democracy is not quite so easy to explain. However the caps indicate that it is a name, something chosen by politicians which confuses rather than clarifies, not a simple fact.

We repeat our appeal to the people and government to keep democracy real in St Vincent and the Grenadines. Please think of these things.

## EDITORIAL EVALUATES TANNIS STORY OF COUP ATTEMPT

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 14 Aug 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Where Was Mr. Cato When a Coup Threatened the Country?"]

[Text]

It is all very well for Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, Hudson Tannis, to tell the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, via a press conference, that he had advised Prime Minister, Milton Cato, that it would be best for him to continue with those important plans to visit Korea and Taiwan on behalf of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, in spite of the "coup" described by Mr. Tannis as something serious and real in the country whose government Cato heads.

When there is an attempted coup there is usually bloodshed. Fear and uncertainty racks most of the population — especially those loyal to the threatened leader. If at all possible is not the place of that leader with his people?

Very little in the way of detail was given to the nation by our Security Minister. Yet vigilance was advised. All we know is that the business community was not involved in the overthrow attempt, but there was no glimmer illuminating the area on which we should focus our attention.

The reaction of Vincentians to the Deputy Prime Minister's announcement that the plans of five Vincentians to overthrow the government had been frustrated was most casual. No one seemed the least bit perturbed. Even Mr. Tannis himself could hardly have regarded the threat to his government as drastic. Otherwise he would surely have urged Mr. Cato's instant return, before realising that the coup had been foiled.

And what of the Prime Minister? The personal adulation which he receives from so many of his followers would certainly have brought him rushing home to reassure them if he had regarded the situation as serious.

It looks as if the powers-that-be themselves must have had scant regard for the purpose, determination and revolutionary acumen of the five mysterious men!

All this leaves us to believe that the question, Where was Mr. Cato when a coup threatened the country? Is not really relevant. The leader of the government would surely have been here to bolster the courage and provide the confidence needed by a people under such circumstances.

In this case the Prime Minister was at one with practically all Vincentians. He had no fear for their safety or the integrity of his government.

Of course we are delighted that whatever happened to prompt Mr. Tannis' address to the nation was not drastic enough to produce fear. This, and the Deputy Prime Minister's avowal of his faith "in the right of the press to free association and the right to publish freely what it wishes critically and uncritically of the government" have buoyed our confidence. On the one hand there is no danger at the moment of an undemocratic overthrow of the government, on the other hand the press has received a direct promise that it will not be censored in the performance of its duty.

CSO: 3025/19

## UPM HOLDS FIRST CONGRESS SINCE ITS INCEPTION 2 YEARS AGO

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 28 Aug 81 p 3

[Article by Ted Roberts]

[Text]

Last Sunday the United people's movement held their first Congress in their two years of existence in the Political area as a Party. It took place at the Memorial Hall.

At the Congress, five persons were honoured, namely: Carib Chief - Chatoyer, Capt Hugh Mulzac, Samuel 'Sheriff' Leis - hero of the 1935 Uprising, Dr Ronnie Saunders - Poet Dramatist, and George

Mc Intosh Dr. Ralph Gonsalves declared in the opening session it was the duty of the Party to note and honour prominent persons who have made a meaningful contribution to our society.

Party Chairman Oscar Allen, in his opening remarks, welcomed party members and supporters for their contribution to the challenge to the 'decaying system of Government that existed.' He said that it is the voice of the people that will determine the position of our country. Allen noted

that everyone has a chance to make a contribution. He urged, the members to fight the good fight in the national interest and commit themselves to the struggles of the party. 'It is a congress of struggle unity and progress,' he said, and success could only be achieved by the unity of forces among the masses.

Solidarity messages came from local, regional and international organisations who all pledged their support in strengthening the efforts of the UPM.

General Secretary Renwick Rose read the report of the UPM National Executive

The report noted that a crucial moment exists in the country and the people are faced with bitter struggles against depression and injustice.

Rose said in an economic review (of the country) that a 'Coa mouflage catastrophe' is existing.

He admitted that some economic growth had been achieved, but the Government was still incapable of

sitting up a proper plan, or structure for the economy. He noted that the Government still import more than they export, thus creating an economic depression.

He claimed that production was falling rapidly in the agricultural sector and that there was no progress in the fishing industry and very little in the Private Sector. The Diamond Dairy Co. and the Sugar Industry were under tremendous pressure and have so far been a liability to the country Rose said. He declared that there was an excessive amount of tax increases and deplored 'use of tax payers' money.

The UPM official said that the Labour Party is steadily coming under intense pressure and noted a decline in party membership.

The Government will never eliminate the problems of unemployment because of their Anti-democratic policies Rose declared cited as an example the Public Order

and Public Safety Bills. He said that the U.P.M. will never allow the Cato regime to encourage terrorist acts by way of a 'Mongoose Gang' or Tannis' phantom Coup.

Also, in his report, he observed that the Richmond Vale Estate Workers' strike action had suffered because the forces mobilised to strengthen their efforts had been insufficient.

The report criticised Government policy towards the police, and the Labour Party's record of management, especially in times of disaster. He referred to the pension allocated to politicians after only two terms, and described the Russell-Calder Williams Parliamentary agreement as an opportunistic one. Rose claimed that while the other opposition parties may have Parliamentary representation, the U.P.M. would strive to control the people on the streets. In closing he declared that his party had not misled the people since its formation and that it would continue progress among the masses.



## BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN--St. Vincent and the Grenadines will establish diplomatic relations with Taiwan at non-resident Ambassadorial level. This was agreed at Cabinet on 14th August. Acting Prime Minister Hon H.K. Tannis said that according to Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Milton Cato, very useful, fruitful and beneficial discussions have been held with the Taiwanese officials. Mr. Cato and party returned to St. Vincent early this week. [Text] [Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 21 Aug 81 p 3] Kingstown, St. Vincent, Saturday (CANA)--St. Vincent and the Grenadines is to receive technical assistance from the Republic of China in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and light industries it has been officially disclosed here. The official release said that in this connection a team of Chinese officials and experts will be visiting St. Vincent shortly. Last month, Prime Minister Milton Cato paid official visits to North Korea and Taiwan, at the invitation of their respective governments, during which he signed bi-lateral agreements. It is expected that those governments will provide assistance in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and light industries. [Text] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/19

## EDITORIAL CALLS FOR CARIBBEAN SUMMIT FOLLOWING ELECTIONS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 2 Sep 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Full Speed to Caricom Summit"]

[Text]

BACKING by a Cabinet-appointed committee for the call by the Demas Committee on Caricom strategy for the 1980s for an early meeting of the Caricom Heads of Government should garner full support from the majority of people in our West Indian family.

For years this newspaper has been consistently requesting the various Governments to come together in this way and we believe the request had become so disconcerting to the late Prime Minister that he was moved to do and say certain things.

He initiated and defended the principle of bilateral arrangements between this country and certain other West Indian countries and also developed with his Government's backing a list of criteria to be applied in providing technical and financial assistance to other members of the West Indian family.

Even this we heartily welcomed but, in our view, such arrangements were never a satisfactory substitute for meetings and consequent exchange of views among WI Heads of Government.

## PROTOCOL

It would seem that the most propitious time for the meeting would be within the first three months after the Trinidad and Tobago general elections, a period which would give the new government time to identify the issues and develop its views.

The collation of any agenda for the Caricom Heads of Government must always be a matter of give and take if we are to avoid the spectacle of seemingly interminable discussions of trivia as well as insoluble matters.

High on the list, however, should come in any case certain issues, for instance, the role and development of the University of the West Indies, the need for study and possible establishment of a West Indian Court of Appeal, the need for revision and improvement of the Caricom protocol and development of ongoing economic initiatives, the study of regional defence and security, the development of procedures affecting the movement of currency and of our people

regionally which will promote neighbourliness and economic benefits, and the establishment of a programme for the co-ordination, if necessary, of a regional foreign policy.

Fears have been expressed up and down the Caribbean about the fate of the University. If isolation is allowed to seep into the conduct of its affairs when different governments are pursuing different patterns of development, the lesser developed countries may well find their interests disregarded. We think the Heads of Government can best set such fears at rest.

The study of the West Indian Court of Appeal idea would necessarily involve looking at the cost and benefit of the objective as well as inviting the Heads of Government to consider certain diplomatic niceties.

Immediately, there come to mind the position of Grenada and the wisdom of setting a precedent, whatever action is taken.

Grenada is most definitely not being administered according to the rule of law.

In these circumstances, the first order of business would be to

encourage Grenada to return to the rule of law before the Spice Isle can participate in any West Indian Court of Appeal, assuming a decision is taken to set up such a potentially useful regional institution.

With rumours of attempted coups and imminent invasions flooding the region at this time, the question of regional defence becomes another urgent matter for discussion.

No doubt as we get nearer the reality of holding the conference matters of equal or greater importance will suggest themselves and enough regional discussion should arise to persuade the Heads of Government about merits for their inclusion in the agenda.

As firm believers in Caribbean integration, we welcome the response from the Trinidad and Tobago Cabinet committee and we look forward to prompt support from other Caricom partners. So much has happened within and without the Caribbean that urgently demands a united regional approach and opinion and we believe a Caricom summit could not be called too soon.

## CORRESPONDENT DESCRIBES NATION'S PRE-ELECTION ATMOSPHERE

Bridgetown CARIBBEAN CONTACT in English No 5, Sep 81 p 5

[Text]

WRITING from Port-of-Spain on the possible outcome of the election, Correspondent TONY FRASER filed this report:

The possible outcome of the election?

A sizeable proportion of the electorate of this oil-rich Republic is steeped in the political culture created by the PNM. This has had a kind of anaesthetic effect on Trinidadians, who have become numb in the face of the PNM Government's history of mismanagement of public funds.

The many charges of corruption, graft and nepotism, have been a permanent feature of PNM reign. But no one of note has yet been brought to justice.

The non-functioning of the public utilities is a standard joke among citizens. Just before the death of Dr. Williams, the middle-class professionals took to pounding the pavement outside Parliament. One group was pressing its claim for recognition as the industrial unit to bargain for all teachers, while doctors and nurses protested the horrible conditions that

exist at the nation's hospitals.

Agriculture has continued its downward plunge in the absence of any serious concerted effort geared towards agricultural development, while the food import bill grows by the millions.

The state of housing is just as scandalous. Ordinary middle-class units cost TTS 120,000 (US\$1 = TTS2.40), while rent on apartments average \$800 to \$1,000 a month. The prospect for the worker in the lower income group of acquiring his own home is simply dismal.

Taken as a whole the government's economic blueprints have failed to work or have not been implemented, and the economy continues to be plagued by runaway inflation as the government spends millions on unproductive welfare in a bid to appease those who are left out of the National Patrimony.

In spite of all this, and the fact that since the general elections of 1961, the percentage of voters who have chosen to exercise their franchise has gradually diminished to the point where only 28 percent of the eligible

electorate voted for the PNM in 1976.

The opposition parties have failed for twenty-five years to create a viable alternative as they dissipate their energies in sterile internecine struggles among themselves.

The tenuous nature of the three-party alliance has done little so far to excite the imagination of that segment of the electorate on the lookout for change. As individual parties they have little chance of drawing support on a national basis. And there is a real possibility of the ULF losing ground to the ruling PNM in its traditional strongholds.

Support for NJAC is very likely to be of a sectional nature insufficient to put it into office.

ONR with its US-style campaign, is striving to attract those disgruntled members of the 1956 National Movement, all the while dragging the country back into neo-colonialism. It is being freely rumoured that this party is favoured by forces in the USA.

## BRIEFS

LOAN TO CARONI--The Government proposes to grant Caroni Ltd another \$100 million. The money is to be used to cover the first two years, 1980 and 1981, of the recently negotiated wage agreement with the All Trinidad Sugar and General Workers Trade Union. The Finance Committee of the House of Representatives is to be asked at a special meeting tomorrow to approve the loan to the company. The overall wage bill for the three year period is \$210 million and Cabinet has agreed that the \$100 million would be paid out of the Participation in Commercial Enterprises Fund. If approved by the Finance Committee, the loan will fetch 6 1/2 per cent interest per annum for 25 years, with a five year moratorium on capital repayments. Last week, it was announced in the House that the company had lost \$299.5 million between 1975 and 1980, and the total for 1981, is estimated to be \$338.6 million. [Excerpt] [Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 6 Sep 81 p 3]

MAHABIR ON POLITICAL AIMS--Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Thursday (CANAL)--Energy and State Enterprises Minister Errol Mahabir has said he is not involved in any struggle for the leadership of the ruling People's National Movement (PNM). Mr. Mahabir, one of two deputy leaders of the party and a long-standing Cabinet Minister was commenting on charges that supporters had been seen wearing t-shirts stamped "Mahabir for Prime Minister." Making the accusation was Deputy political leader of the Organisation for Nation Reconstruction (ONR) Surujrattan Rambachan, who claimed to have seen the shirts at a meeting of his party. Mahabir said supporters of his attended the meeting which was held in section of the Southern Trinidad constituency he represents in Parliament. "I am involved in no struggle for Prime Minister. I have not laid down any conditions for anybody and the alleged jerseys are a figment of a malicious imagination," Mr. Mahabir said. The energy Minister said he was not yet ready to say whether he would be a candidate in the next elections which Prime Minister George Chambers must call this year. He has been under some pressure from his wife to quit. Mrs. Mahabir made public her dislike of her husband's participation in politics in an interview with the EXPRESS newspaper. However, his constituents are reportedly keen on him running again. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 18 Sep 81 p 3]

## LUSINCHI DISCUSSES AD PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 21 Sep 81 p D-12

[Article: "A Government with Major Political Backing Is Established in Venezuela"]

[Text] Barquisimeto, 20 Sep (special)--"In Venezuela there are no plans for creating a government of integration. Here we need a government with major political support and I believe that Democratic Action [AD] enjoys it and will secure it in the coming presidential elections of 1983." This was asserted here at a press conference held in this city's central office of AD by Dr Jaime Lusinchí, the party's national secretary and the presumed presidential candidate of that political organization.

Dr Lusinchí made the statement in referring to other declarations by the national secretary general of COPEI [Social Christian Party], Dr Eduardo Fernandez, to the effect that it would be very appropriate to arrive at a dialogue with Democratic Action to reach an agreement for the complete fulfillment of the government program in the next constitutional period.

"The observation of Dr Fernandez is interesting in the sense that a coincidence of goals may be reached in fundamental projects for the country and we would have no objections whatever to participating in the launching of some programs. However, to go from there to achieving an identity of government programs is not possible because it presupposes a program with an ideological content which would never coincide. However, I am not familiar with the parameters of the formula suggested by Dr Eduardo Fernandez even though any position of Democratic Action will have to be decided by the party's CEN [National Executive Committee] because it is my understanding that what would be involved would be issues not merely of a programmatic but also of an ideological nature. There can be agreements between the two major parties to undertake projects of major national interest but it must be very clear that in Venezuela it has been shown that it is possible to govern without Democratic Action but not in opposition to Democratic Action," Jaime Lusinchí noted.

AD's national secretary general, who was accompanied at the press conference by members of the regional CES [?CEN] headed by Dr Guillermo Luna, later referred to internal matters of the party in regard to the selection of the presidential candidate and he said that a study is being made of the proposed changes in the bylaws in which criteria for the selection of the candidate and the date when this will occur will be set up.



"I sincerely and unquestionably believe that it is indeed necessary to promote such a process because the party additionally has many tasks to accomplish and these cannot be further postponed. Furthermore, there is a nearly universal agreement among the party leaders at all levels who feel that we must accelerate this process of the selection of the presidential candidate because we cannot afford the luxury of waiting any longer," Dr Lusinchi asserted.

2662

CSO: 3010/11

## AD LEADER INTERVIEWED ON PARTY'S POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 21 Sep 81 p C-1

[Interview with Jose Angel Ciliberto, executive secretary of the National Executive Committee of Democratic Action, by Alfredo Pena: "Even If CAP Runs for Secretary General I Will Vote For Manuel Penalver"; place and date of interview not given]

[Text] Jose Angel Ciliberto left AD [Democratic Action] while he was undersecretary general of that party. Betancourt was at the head of the government at the time, and Ciliberto together with Raul Ramos Jimenez, Jose Manzo, Elpidio La Riva Mata and others of his companions founded AD-OP [AD-Opposition], in other words, the opposition party. The old guard was left with AD-GOB [AD-Government], the government party. Later Ciliberto campaigned under the orange-colored banner. Then came the hour of his return. He returned to the maternal fold and is now executive secretary of the CEN [National Executive Committee (of AD)].

Today, Ciliberto proclaims his undying friendship with Betancourt, Barrios and Perez. He admits that there may be certain differences of opinion among them, but insists that a social democratic split is not in the cards.

Our interlocutor is fully seasoned politician. For his AD capers he suffered persecution, torment and exile. Presently, he is closely linked to Jaime Lusinchi and is undoubtedly giving him his full cooperation. Some say he could become the AD candidate's campaign manager if Lusinchi were finally to be named the party's candidate. It will not be easy for him to capture that eagerly sought-after spot, which will be doggedly fought for by orthodox and heterodox figures alike among members of the party leadership.

[Question] Although all of you deny it, the confrontation within AD between Betancourt and Perez can no longer be kept a secret. It came into the open again recently when one of them publicly supported Penalver's candidacy and the other that of his opponent. How can this rivalry for the leadership be prevented from leading to another split-up of the party?

[Answer] I am not aware that Carlos Andres Perez [CAP] opposes Manuel Penalver's aspiration--certainly a very legitimate one--to becoming the secretary general of

AD. But in any case, assuming the validity of what you are telling me and admitting the fact, which it is, that Betancourt supported Penalver's candidacy, I must say the possible existence of different views does not mean--in any way whatever--that a confrontation exists between these two great leaders of the party. Nothing is involved that could lead to a split-up of the party.

[Question] The fact of the matter is that differences definitely exist--and very serious ones--between Betancourt and Perez. When a dispute centers between leaders of a party, the party's unity is unavoidably placed in jeopardy.

[Answer] Even admitting that there could be some differences with respect to specific problems being faced by AD, I can assure you that these could never lead to a party schism.

[Question] The report of the Ethics Commission on President Perez's conduct is common knowledge. We know that the Congress--by a margin of one vote--absolved him. Now Pinerua has again pointed up the Sierra Nevada matter and says that it is hardly one to be ashamed of.

[Answer] What occurred with respect to the purchase of the Sierra Nevada cannot fail to deeply shame any Venezuelan who feels concern for the decent handling of public matters. But this in no way means that ex-President Carlos Andres Perez soiled his prestige and his honor in the entire proceeding of the Sierra Nevada purchase. When Luis Pinerua says that in the next AD government there must be no repetition of cases like these, he is referring to all the manipulation there has been around a case that is still pending in the courts of justice. Carlos Andres Perez--in the proceedings of all the state bodies having competency in the matter--came out clear of all administrative and ethical wrongdoing in the purchase of that ship. Pinerua did not want to implicate Carlos Andres Perez in that dirty business. Neither AD's finding nor that of any of the party's leaders can supersede the common-law findings of the Venezuelan state's judicial system.

[Question] Only a very short time ago, Pinerua said he had not lost the election by way of the primaries and warned that the governments of France and Costa Rica had lost because of acts of corruption.

[Answer] I cannot deny that in Carlos Andres Perez's administration there were cases of corruption. This is a blemish on Venezuelan public administration. What I could never accept is any charge that President Perez as a governing executive was corrupt. That is an offense no AD member can tolerate toward one who is a leader and head of state whom history will eulogize for his work of a sociopolitical nationalist nature. And as of today, in the COPEI [Social Christian Party] administration, corruption is rampant. This, however, would not for example lead me to say that President Herrera sponsors the corruption or is himself corrupt.

[Question] Was Pinerua a good candidate or a bad one?

[Answer] Pinerua was a good candidate. And I am convinced he would have made a good president, a better president than a candidate.

[Question] I think Perez has said he would not have lost that election...

[Answer] I don't know... I do know that Pinerua was a good presidential candidate.

[Question] Had the candidate been Perez, would the outcome have been the same?

[Answer] I believe it would have been. To analyze the causes of that defeat would be very time-consuming... But the circumstances involved were many. Our policy of alliances was a failure. There was no reason to create unnecessary adversaries.

[Question] Like which ones?

[Answer] I would have liked for Dr Villalba to have been on AD's side.

[Question] How do you feel now, you backers of Lusincha, about being backed by people who always opposed you within the party?

[Answer] We never had any ideological or doctrinal differences with our colleagues.

[Question] Only a very short time ago, in the fight for secretary general, did Pinerua oppose your group?

[Answer] He did not oppose Jaime for secretary general.

[Question] Did he support him?

[Answer] He voted for him.

I Did Not Consult Dr Barrios

[Question] You spearheaded a split-up of AD. Then you returned to it and were closer to Perez than to Betancourt. Now, it seems that you are close to Romulo and distant from CAP.

[Answer] Together with other colleagues we led the split-up into AD-GOB and AD-OP. That was a mistake. We never differed on the doctrine and the principles of the party. On that occasion we dissented over certain governmental decisions because, in our opinion, they were contrary to the party's essential doctrine.

[Question] An example?

[Answer] The alliance with COPEI. That party is AD's historic adversary.

[Question] Does Betancourt think the same?

[Answer] I do not know... I am expressing my own thoughts.

[Question] It is said that Romulo is unforgiving toward those who have left the party. Do you think he has forgiven you?

[Answer] I don't know... I know President Betancourt quite well and I consider myself his personal friend. I have seen nothing on his part to indicate that the regard he has always had for me--testimonials of which I certainly cherish in the form of very gracious letters, documents and dedications of his books-- has changed.

[Question] And as for President Perez, whom you also opposed at the time of the split-up, do you think he has forgiven you?

[Answer] I am a very good friend of ex-President Perez. I defend his performance in government and have been his close collaborator. The position I took was politically based; I never broke off my friendship with the leaders of the party. At my family reunions, even though I was outside the AD-GOB, my old friends were always my guests.

[Question] Were Betancourt and Perez present at that time at those reunions?

[Answer] Yes, they were.

Neither Gumersindos Nor Diegos!

[Question] The labor section backed Lusinchí on condition that he back Penalver. It made very clear its position that if Jaime reaches Miraflores he is to have freedom of action only in the handling of international and military matters. Now, Pinerua says that in that government there will be no place for Diegos or for Gumersindos. Another reproach toward President Perez...

[Answer] The only political leader present not belonging to the labor section when the labor delegation came to announce to Jaime Lusinchí its decision to him was I. At no point was any such give and take introduced into the discussion. The backing of Jaime and the statement by Manuel Penalver of his aspiration to be secretary general coincided, and that was all there was to it. What was in fact discussed with regard to the conduct of the presidency by the candidate, our next president certainly, Jaime Lusinchí, was how he is to fit his governance in office to the party platform. I am in agreement with that. The political responsibility for public administration rests with the governing party. A division within the governing party, finding its policy not being rightly interpreted or actualized by the one who in its name governs the country, results in a real let-up in party discipline, dedication and popular prestige.

[Question] Did such a division exist during President Perez's governance?



[Answer] No, it did not exist, but AD would have wanted a more active direct participation in certain policy decisions made by President Carlos Andrés Bello.

[Question] And why does Pinerua say that he is determined that in a Lusinchi government there will be neither Gumersindos nor Diegos?

[Answer] That is the view of my friend and colleague Pinerua, for whom I sincerely have a high regard, but which I am not in a position to interpret and/or analyze. You would have to ask him what he had in mind with his reference to Diegos and Gumersindos.

[Question] Would you be in agreement with there being Diegos and Gumersindos in Jaime's government, were he, of course, to win the election?

[Answer] I know many friends of Dr Lusinchi named Diegos and Gumersindos. And I would have no reservations about his, Venezuela's next president's, using them in his administration.

[Question] Are you referring to Diego Arria and Gumersindo Rodríguez?

[Answer] Not exactly to them...

[Question] It is with regard to them that Pinerua warned...

[Answer] He did not add any surnames to those names.

[Question] It is entirely obvious...

[Answer] It is you who say that, not I.

CAP and Penalver

[Question] How would you see David Morales Bello as secretary general of AD?

[Answer] I don't see him..., because he is not a candidate for the secretaryship. The secretary general of the party will be Manuel Penalver.

[Question] And what if President Pérez were to sponsor David's candidacy?

[Answer] He would have to compete with Manuel Penalver.

[Question] And what if President Pérez were himself to run for secretary general?

[Answer] I do not believe that one who in AD holds the hierarchical position of ex-head of state, a much higher political position than that of secretary general, would want to step down from that status.



[Question] But if CAP were to run, would you vote for him or for Manuel Penalver?

[Answer] I would vote for Manuel Penalver.

[Question] Persons very close to Lusinchi are saying that you will be the campaign manager. Do you think the candidate will place that trust in you?

[Answer] That is a decision Dr Lusinchi must make. I am his friend. I will work in any spot in which I am placed. Venezuela desperately needs that the election be won by AD and that the president of the Republic be Jaime Lusinchi.

[Question] Gonzalo Barrios is seen as a leader who in AD brings about understanding and harmony. He is seen as being centrally positioned with respect to the differences between Betancourt and Perez.

[Answer] Gonzalo Barrios succeeds in everything he undertakes. Even beyond the supposed differences between Romulo Betancourt and Carlos Andres Perez, he has always been a cohesive element, a conciliator and a political and intellectual leader within the party.

[Question] Why was Gonzalo Barrios unsuccessful in persuading you not to leave and divide the party?

[Answer] Perhaps if I had consulted Dr Barrios on the decision I took at that time I would not have chosen the road I traveled.

[Question] Romulo Betancourt says he has no blood bond with Carlos Andres Perez. Do you think he does have one with Gonzalo Barrios?

[Answer] I don't believe so. Between figures of that stature there can be no blood bond, because that would mean an identity of views, of likes and dislikes, decisions and even mannerisms.

#### David Must Remain in Parliament

[Question] If Jaime Lusinchi were to become president of the Republic, what role would you assign to David Morales Bello?

[Answer] I cannot talk for Dr Lusinchi.

[Question] And if Jaime were to ask your advice?

[Answer] I would say David must continue in Parliament because there can be no doubt that David is an excellent parliamentarian.

[Question] In the fight for the presidential candidacy, Carlos Andres Perez has proclaimed his neutrality, yet on David's campaign staff one finds the figures

most closely linked to the ex-president, including his wife, Blanca, who is with the legal expert.

[Answer] I honestly believe that in the campaign for the AD presidential candidacy President Perez has been scrupulously neutral. The fact that his highly esteemed colleagues are backing David Morales Bello does not mean that Carlos Andres is backing that candidacy. No one doubts the political gravitational force of President Perez in his home state. There not a leaf stirs but Perez wills it. The Tachira Sectional Executive Committee has endorsed Jaime Lusinchi's presidential candidacy.

Caldera and Lusinchi

[Question] You have expressed your belief in polls. Let us take a look at the latest results. Winners: AD and Caldera; losers: the government, COPEI and Lusinchi.

[Answer] I will take for granted what you say about the results of the poll. Jaime Lusinchi is as yet not AD's official candidate. Dr Caldera has been COPEI's candidate since the day Luis Herrera Campins took office as president. The COPEI candidate has been able to utilize his international investiture to create for himself a world standing. He comes across as a person far removed from the inoperativeness and nonsense of the government. When AD comes forth to remind the people of the Caldera government's performance in office and demonstrates clearly that he is responsible for this national disaster, Dr Caldera's candidacy will founder. Dr Caldera has a choice of two roads, neither of which will lead him to victory: He must either come right out into the open and say the the government is no good, or he must stoically accept the regime of Luis Herrera. As regards the polls, Caldera has now reached a plateau; for months he has remained at a level of 35, 36 or 37 percent. On the other hand, Jaime Lusinchi--who started at zero--is already nipping at Caldera's heels. Once Jaime has been vested with the AD candidacy and the party as a whole turns its attention toward winning the election, I am certain he will reach twice Caldera's percentage figure.

[Question] This was once a nation of caudillos; now it is a clearly presidentialist country. Now that Venezuelans must choose on the basis of the talent, honesty, wisdom, credibility and experience of two men who aspire to command the ship of state, why should they opt for Lusinchi and not for Caldera?

[Answer] For two reasons: 1) The country has already tried Caldera, who is unquestionably a COPEI caudillo, and come out the the worse for it. 2) It now has the option of trying out a team player. Jaime has neither the claim to nor the requisites for being a caudillo. Jaime is the expression of the AD collective leadership's political will to transform and renovate. Therein lies his success within the party and his future success as a candidate for president of the Republic. Jaime is the expression of a strong desire to renovate the party and reaffirm AD's popular image. He will turn in a governmental performance in complete accord with the dictates of conscience demanded by a country in the full process of political, social and economic development--that is, the New Venezuela.

**END OF**

**FICHE**

**DATE FILMED**

28 Oct. 1981

D.D.